

Israeli police hold 115 Arabs

TEL AVIV (AP) — Police arrested 115 Israeli Arabs in an attempt to contain a village feud in which four homes were burned and destroyed Sunday and one person was seriously injured in a knife, police officials said.

The violence in the northern Galilee village of Kfar Manda erupted over a dispute linked to local municipal elections last month in which the incumbent council leader was ousted, Israel Radio reported. Police officials said members of the incumbent's clan, the Abdul Halim family, rampaged through the village Sunday morning throwing firebombs and stones and burning four homes belonging to the rival Zeidan clan. Council leader Muhammad Zeidan said the dispute "has to do with the clan and the results of the elections." Police said a total of 115 villagers were detained in the last three days, including 46 people who were arrested for throwing firebombs. Twenty-one residents were detained after minor clashes Friday night and 55 in Saturday clashes. A police official said the violence Sunday began when hundreds of supporters of the Abdul Halim clan poured into the village's streets, hurling stones and firebombs at the homes of Zeidan family members and their supporters.

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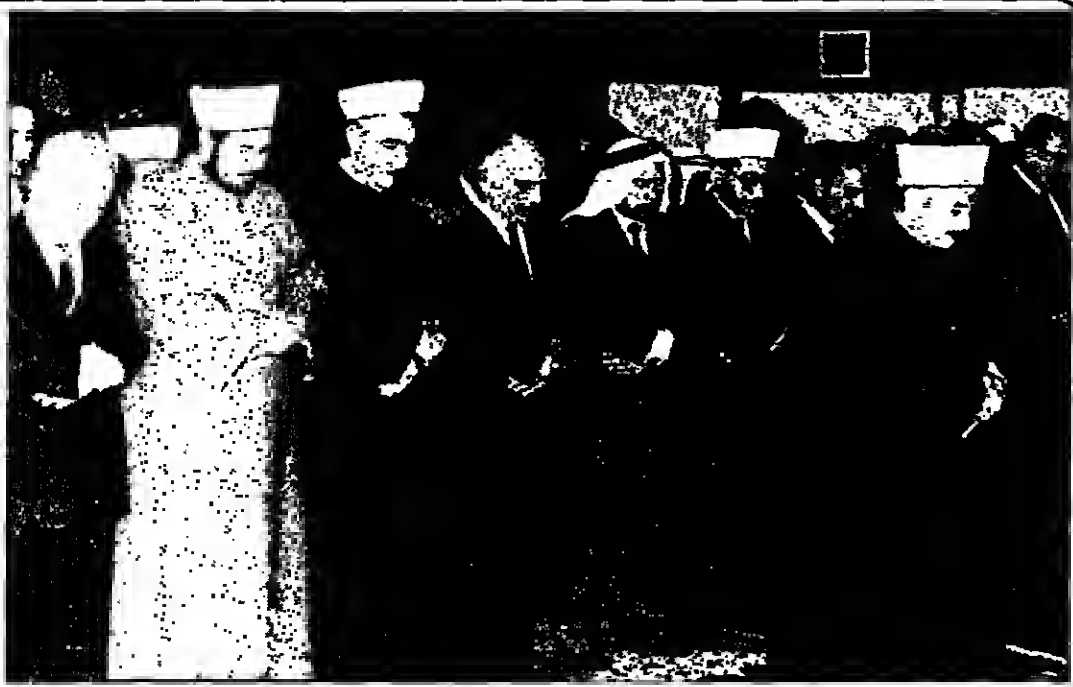
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King hosts iftar

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday hosted an iftar banquet at Al Hussein Youth City. The banquet was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, and Cabinet ministers, the speaker and members of the Upper House of Parliament, Royal Court Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, King Hussein's political and special advisors, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibo Zaid, Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Muhammad Moheilan, Muslim ulamas and a number of heads of diplomatic missions in Amman.

The King and the guests performed Al Maghreb prayer.



Baghdad meeting to discuss ACC structure, projects, programmes

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Prime ministers of the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) meet in Baghdad Monday to discuss ACC projects and the council's organizational structure and programmes ahead of an ACC summit next month.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Sunday the two-day meeting, which will be attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan and North Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani, will review the ACC's establishment procedures, its permanent headquarters, privileges and status of

ACC officials, financial and administrative structures and electing a secretary-general for the regional economic alliance.

The recommendations of the prime ministers will be submitted to His Majesty King Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh who will meet in a summit conference in Cairo next month.

The council, which was proclaimed Feb. 16 at a summit of the four leaders in Baghdad, has already decided to locate its general secretariat in Amman. Iraq holds the ACC presidency for this year.

Ramadan said Saturday the prime ministers would discuss the ACC's organizational structure,

secretariat, finances, constitution and nomination of a secretary-general as well as free movement of ACC nationals across members' borders.

More than one million Egyptians work in Iraq and more than 100,000 in Jordan, according to Reuters. They require work permits but not visas in both countries.

ACC airline chiefs met in Cairo last month and agreed to consider flights between their countries as domestic. They discussed route-sharing agreements and the possibility of an eventual merger of the four airlines.

A month ago Iraq announced plans for a joint project with Jordan to build a railway linking Baghdad and Amman. Iraqi

Transport Minister Muhammad Hamza Al Zubeidi also said Iraq and Egypt had agreed to operate a bus route between their capitals through Aqaba's ferry link with Egypt's Nuweibah.

The ACC charter, now ratified in all member states, calls for the eventual development of a common market and investment in joint ventures as well as cooperation in many social, economic and cultural areas.

Diplomats said Monday's meeting might also cover possible cooperation with the Arab World's other two economic blocs — the Arab Maghreb union, proclaimed on the same day as the ACC, and the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) formed in 1981.

Occupation forces plan curbs on Jerusalem worshippers

Israeli troops kill 2 Palestinians, wound 10

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers shot to death two Palestinians Sunday, one a 60-year-old man who allegedly attacked a soldier with a pitchfork and the other a 12-year-old boy hit by a plastic bullet.

A second Palestinian was wounded in an ensuing clash after the alleged attack on the soldier in the West Bank city of Hebron, according to the army. Reports said 10 other Palestinians were wounded in clashes in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The two deaths raised to 424 the number of Palestinians killed during the uprising against Israeli occupation.

The clashes came as Palestinians staged a second straight day of a general strike marking the start of the 17th month of uprising.

Also Sunday, Israeli Police Minister Chaim Bar Lev said Israel was considering blocking West Bank Palestinians from going to the Al Aqsa and Dome of the Rock mosques, the third holiest site in Islam, following protests Friday outside the mosques in Jerusalem's Old City.

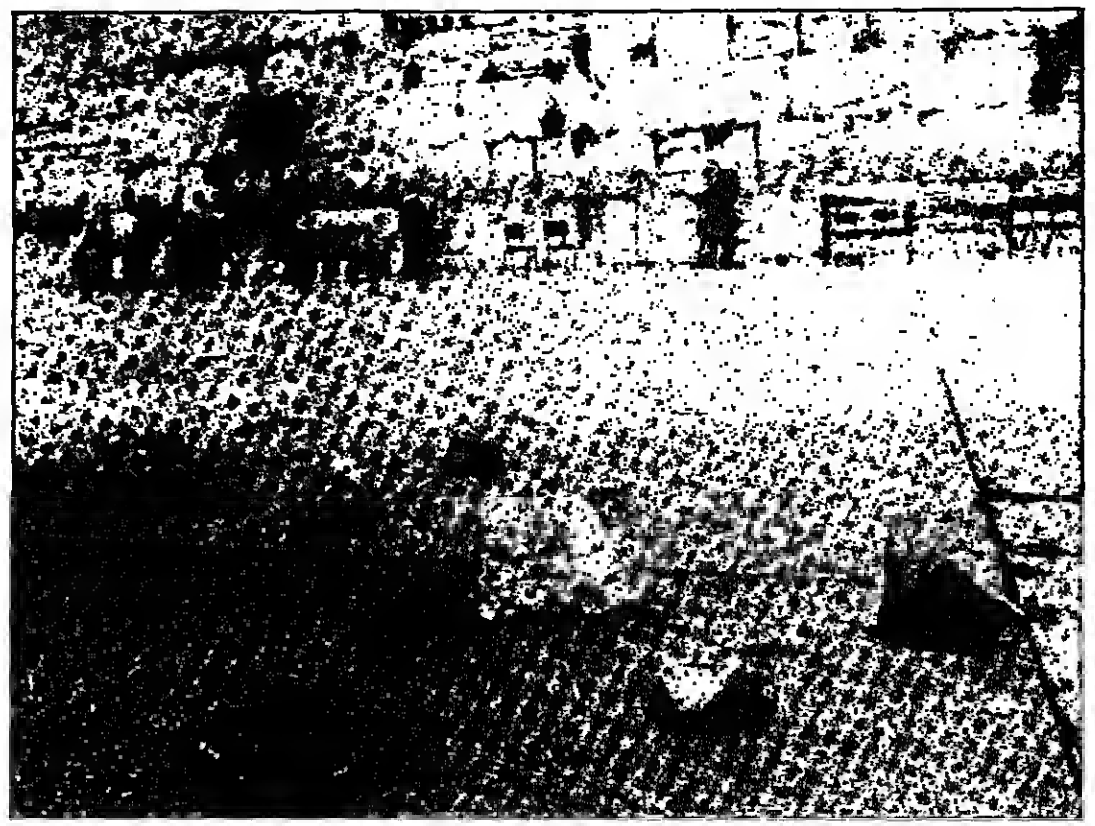
About a dozen people were injured in stoning attacks, which spilled over from the mosques to the adjacent wall.

Thirty-seven people were detained in the clashes, many of them from the West Bank, police said.

The Jerusalem Post quoted an official as saying worshippers would also have to check their identity cards with the police to pray at the Al Aqsa and Dome of the Rock mosques.

Palestinians throughout the occupied areas kept their stores closed for the second consecutive day and public transport halted in accordance with the strike call by leaders of the revolt.

Residents of the Gaza Strip said masked youths sprayed walls with slogans Saturday night ordering attacks on Israeli troops and border police.



Rocks strewn on ground in front of the western wall in occupied Jerusalem, thrown by Palestinian demonstrators from the Haram Al Sharif Complex above after Friday prayers.

The slogans also warned Arab motorists to stay off the roads or be stoned as strike-breakers on the second day of the general strike.

About one-third of the Gaza Strip's 700,000 residents were confined to their homes by army curfews on seven of the area's eight Palestinian refugee camps and Beit Hanoun village.

The centre of Hebron, a city of 80,000 population, was under curfew following Sunday's attack

on a soldier.

The army said a Palestinian was shot and killed after attacking a soldier with a pitchfork.

Reports said the victim was Ahmad Mohammad Soneih, 60, a labourer who attacked after a soldier struck a woman relative who was trying to block Soneih's arrest.

They said four troops broke into Soneih's house to arrest him following a stoning attack on the Israelis from the building's

roof.

In the Gaza Strip village of Jabaliya, Mahmud Dhi Nabhan died of a plastic bullet wound to the chest and six other boys were injured when the army responded with gunfire in a firebomb attack on a military vehicle, Arab reports said.

Arab reports said four other Palestinians were shot and wounded in a clash between soldiers and Palestinians in Awarta village, near Nablus.

Troops, protesters clash in Tbilisi

SUKHUMI, the Soviet Union (Agencies) — Sixteen people were killed in clashes between troops and demonstrators in Tbilisi, capital of Soviet Georgia, the republic's television said Sunday.

The television, which had been silent all morning, resumed broadcasting with details of the clashes which broke out during the night.

The trouble followed two days of demonstrations involving up to 100,000 people, many of them calling for secession from the Soviet Union.

Soviet troops and tanks were deployed in the city Friday in an effort to maintain order.

Georgian Television appealed for calm and confirmed that 16 people on both sides were killed and at least 100 people were injured in the clash, according to an official at the city executive committee who would not identify himself.

No official information about Soviet troop casualties was available, he said. Information in the

television broadcast was issued by the Georgian Communist Party and the government.

"Sixteen civilians were killed and more than 100 were injured," the statement said. "A total of 91 soldiers were also hurt, 20 of whom were hospitalized. Four of them are in a serious condition."

The television said the clashes broke out in the early hours of the morning outside the main government building in the city centre. It said the troops had not used their weapons but did not explain how the deaths occurred.

According to the statement, about 8,000 people, some of them brandishing knives, had gathered outside the building and refused repeated appeals to disperse.

"The extremists wanted blood and attacked the security forces," the television said. It added that mass hysteria had gripped the crowd which had been incited by "provocateurs" and "anti-Soviet elements."

Tension has been building

since Tuesday, when hunger strikers and protesters pressed demands for Georgian independence from the Soviet Union. In addition, the Georgian nationalists accuse the Kremlin of fomenting unrest among ethnic Abkhazians within Georgia with their own agenda for autonomy.

A spokesman for the republic's news agency Gruzinform said an emergency meeting of the Georgian Communist Party leadership had been called to discuss the crisis.

The unrest in Tbilisi flared up last week over demands from the Abkhaz people, who live in an enclave on the Black Sea, to secede from Georgia and form a separate Soviet republic.

But many of those attending the demonstrations in Tbilisi seized the opportunity to press their own demands for Georgia's secession from the Soviet Union. Troops with armoured vehicles were called into Tbilisi to restore order.

Sihanouk sees early solution in Kampuchea

BEIJING (AP) — Kampuchean resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Sunday his talks with the Vietnamese-installed premier of Kampuchea would take at least two days.

Sihanouk has accepted an invitation by Premier Han Sen to meet in Jakarta, Indonesia, May 2. Both sides initially spoke only of holding one meeting.

But in a message to his son, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, in Bangkok, Thailand, Sihanouk said: "My unofficial talks with Mr. Han Sen about (Kampuchea) will take at least two days. I will return to Bangkok (from Jakarta) on May 4 or 5."

Sihanouk's willingness to extend the talks appeared to indicate a new optimism that progress could be made on resolving Kampuchea's fate after Vietnamese troops pull out. Vietnam has said it will withdraw all its forces by September, ending a 10-year presence in Kampuchea.

Sihanouk, who lives part of the year in Beijing, distributed copies of the message to reporters.

In an interview later Sunday with the British Broadcasting Corporation, Sihanouk appeared to indirectly confirm reports that the United States was secretly giving lethal aid to the resistance forces.

"The administration of (former) President (Ronald) Reagan and now the administration of President George Bush want me to keep quiet about the very delicate question of lethal aid, from U.S. aid to the non-communists," in the resistance, he said. "So I have to keep quiet. So... I say that there is no U.S. lethal aid to my army — (that's) the official declaration, statement."

Sihanouk also told the BBC he believed a "good settlement" could be reached by August if his proposal for an international conference on Kampuchea were carried out in early summer.

Husseini: Elections only after pullout; Peres admits indirect talks with PLO

CAIRO (Agencies) — Faisal Husseini, a Palestinian leader from the occupied West Bank, held talks Sunday with Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid and later said elections in the occupied territories could only be held after Israeli withdrawal.

He was commenting on a plan put forward by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to U.S. President George Bush in Washington last week proposing Palestinian balloting as a first step towards self-rule.

"If Palestinians are elected under Israeli occupation, what will be the guarantee that Israel won't expel or imprison them," Husseini said.

"Elections should be carried out under international supervision, and after the removal of the occupation."

His opinion, given to reporters after meeting with Abdul Meguid, was later echoed by

Jamal Sourani, a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representative in Cairo.

"We don't want to repeat (past) mayoral elections and the expulsions and leg amputations," Sourani said, referring to the expulsion or deposition of all but six of 23 Palestinian mayors elected in 1976.

Sourani and two other PLO representatives in Cairo, Saeed Kamal and Zohdi Al Qudra, met separately with Abdul Meguid, a Foreign Ministry source told the AP.

Sourani's comments were the first from a PLO official after Palestine President and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat described Shamir's suggestion as "inappropriate, as usual."

Many Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip also reacted coolly to Shamir's proposal, but like Husseini, called for Israeli withdrawal before balloting and

foreign supervision of the balloting.

In the last few years Husseini, who heads the Arab Studies Centre in Arab Jerusalem, has become one of the most popular Palestinian figures in the absence of mayors.

Husseini is accompanied on his visit here by businessman Said Kanaan of Nablus, and newspaper editor Hanna Siniara, also of Arab Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, Israeli Finance Minister Shimon Peres acknowledged Sunday that Israel was negotiating indirectly with the PLO through U.S. mediation.

Peres, head of the Labour Party, issued his first full reaction to Shamir's elections plan for the occupied territories in interviews with two Israeli radio stations.

Peres indicated he supported the plan but predicted three major difficulties in implementing it, including:

— Shamir's opposition to foreign supervision of the balloting;

— Whether municipal or other political officials would be elected, with the Americans apparently preferring the polls carry wider significance than local balloting;

— Whether Arab residents of Arab Jerusalem would participate in the balloting. In the last elections held in the territories in 1976, Arab Jerusalem residents were excluded because Israel claims "sovereignty" over the city.

Peres urged both the Israelis and Palestinians to compromise, saying, "Negotiating without compromising is a complete waste of time."

Israel, he added, had in effect conceded its longstanding refusal to talk to the PLO by letting the United States mediate a venue for holding the elections.

Top Egyptian cleric held after shootout in Fayoum

FAYOUM, Egypt (R) — A top Muslim theologian and mentor of Egypt's Islamic radicals was arrested after clashes between fundamentalists and police in the oasis town of Fayoum, a senior police officer said Sunday.

He told Reuters eight people were injured when riot police and Muslim militants demonstrating against the government exchanged shots in the town, 100 kilometres southwest of Cairo, Friday.

The 41 people detained included Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, a blind theologian and fiery preacher regarded by many members of the underground Islamic Jihad group as their guide.

Egyptian commentators said they viewed the violence as a symptom of growing discontent over Egypt's economic situation and a reminder of the fundamentalist challenge to the government.

Abdul Rahman, 52, was once charged with inciting the killing

of President Awar Sadat, shot by Islamic Jihad members at a Cairo military parade Oct. 6, 1981, but was acquitted for lack of evidence.

Fayoum appeared tranquil Sunday but armed police were on alert near the mosque where the violence erupted.

Fayoum police chief Mohammad Seif Al Islam, who was wounded in the clash, said Abdul Rahman invited 1,500 supporters from Assiut, Minya and other Upper Egypt towns to the mosque to prepare for a protest march on the first day of Ramadan.

"I warned them to disperse peacefully," he told Reuters from his hospital bed. "I heard gunfire and was hit by a bullet in the leg. I ordered my men to return fire."

A witness, shopowner Mohammad Fouad Ibrahim, 39, said: "There was shooting on both sides and it looked like another Lebanon."

A Fayoum official said Abdul

Rahman and nine other people had been detained for 15 days pending further investigations.

Interior Ministry sources in Cairo said the remaining 31 were detained under emergency laws, which were introduced after Sadat's murder and allow a suspect to be held indefinitely.

Saadeddin Ibrahim, a specialist on Egypt's fundamentalist movement, told Reuters last month there were signs of mounting unrest over unemployment, low wages and rising prices.

"The fundamentalists have just appropriated the discontent... you have young high-achievers with dreams of fortune and power ending up very frustrated," he said.

Seif Al Islam said: "They (fundamentalists) want to turn Egypt back to the middle ages."

Islamic Jihad is the best known of several clandestine groups seeking to overthrow the government and impose Islamic laws.

France under fire over Lebanon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Muslim leaders and Iran hit out on Sunday at French attempts to intercede in three weeks of sectarian battles in Lebanon, accusing Paris of colonialism.

Guns lobbed a few shells into Lebanon's Christian enclave despite a four-day-old ceasefire, observed by the mostly Christian soldiers loyal to army commander Major-General Michel Aoun.

Security sources reported that Aoun's 15,000 soldiers and the 25,000 Syrian troops were reinforcing for a possible new bout of conflict.

At least 150 people have been killed and 570 wounded since mid-March in some of the worst shelling of Lebanon's 14 years of civil war.

France, which ruled Lebanon as a mandated territory between the world wars, sent a navy hospital ship and an oil tanker loaded with supplies to Lebanon Friday in what it called a humanitarian operation.

Militia sources and many wor-

ried civilians expected that artillery duels across Beirut would resume with renewed ferocity before the French ships' arrival, expected by mid-week.

Salim Al Hoss, who leads a civilian cabinet rivaling a military one headed by Aoun, condemned French statements on the conflict.

"France's biased policy in Lebanon these days has shocked us," said Hoss.

Hoss defended Syria's military presence in Lebanon as "essential for security in the absence of national coherence" between Muslim and Christians. He warned France against taking the Lebanese crisis to the U.N. Security Council.

Hoss said the French government had suggested he meet Aoun for peace talks but he rejected the proposal.

"The possibility of agreeing with General Aoun is almost nil due to his known stubbornness in his rash decisions which have dragged the country to destruc-

tion," Hoss told the Voice of the Homeland radio.

"He raises the slogans of war, while we raise the ones of peace and unity. So what are we going to agree," Hoss said.

Hoss's condemnation followed warnings from militia leaders against France resuming its colonial role as guardian of Lebanon's Christians.

French President Francois Mitterrand has signalled support for Aoun by saying France would not allow the "sacrifice" of Lebanese Christians.

Hoss also rejected the idea of referring the Lebanese crisis to the U.N. Security Council, a move apparently favoured by France.

Sheikh Mohammad Medhi Shamseddine, vice-president of the Higher Shiite Council, echoed anger at the French role.

"We urge the French government and French officials as well as public opinion to reevaluate their position," said Shamseddine.

die, adding that Paris should support Arab League peace efforts rather than seek to internationalise the crisis.

Tehran Radio quoted Iranian Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani as saying French action on Lebanon rang alarm bells.

"We have another concern these days which is, in my opinion, important... that is the start of French intervention, as a scout for Western colonialists, in Lebanon," the radio quoted him as saying in parliament.

"Those who, due to the deadly blow inflicted by the Lebanese people, were expelled from Lebanon and who ran away, must not think that the people of Lebanon have changed," Rafsanjani said.

"The idea of returning to Lebanon is mistaken."

Iran supports Hizbollah, a group of radicals in Lebanon, thought to hold many of the 17 Western hostages there. The group has denied hostage-taking.

Rebels report fresh push on Jalalabad

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Afghan rebels said they launched a second major attack on the eastern town of Jalalabad Sunday and had come under heavy bombing attacks from government planes.

Spokesman for the Mujahideen in Pakistan said they had no reports of any casualties or of how the assault was progressing after they began attacking government positions in the morning.

An Afghan rebel news service said the attack was aimed at capturing the airport and three government bases.

A rebel offensive against Jalalabad launched last month has been bogged down by government bombing and minefields around the provincial capital near the Pakistan border.

A spokesman for the Hezb-i-Islami (Khalis) party said the latest attack was launched "from all sides using rockets and various other weapons they have."

He said government jets were bombing suspected rebel positions heavily and the fighting was continuing some seven hours after the attack started.

The rebels were using 15 tanks captured from government troops, another rebel spokesman said.

More than 20,000 new Afghan refugees have poured into Pakistan following last month's assault on Jalalabad, which the Mujahideen want to establish as the capital of their government-in-

exile.

Pakistan, which hosts more than three million Afghan refugees and the main guerrilla groups, has denied Afghan charges that its troops are fighting alongside the rebels in the battle for Jalalabad.



Buildings in the Pakistani border village of Torkham which were destroyed by a Scud-B missile

Pakistani warning

Pakistan also warned Saturday that Afghanistan's Communist government faces "serious consequences" after a Soviet-made SS-1 "Scud B" missile landed inside Pakistani territory.

The missile, with a range of 160 to 280 kilometres, hit about 500 metres inside Pakistan's border shortly after midnight Friday (1900 GMT Saturday).

It wrecked a government post office in the Pakistani border

village of Torkham but injured no one, government officials said.

Pakistan's Foreign Ministry issued a statement Saturday calling the missile attack a "brazen act of provocation by the Kabul regime... clearly designed to internationalise the situation in Afghanistan in order to save itself from the wrath of its own people."

Pakistan's statement said the missile was deliberately launched as part of a ploy to persuade the U.N. Security Council to debate

how to halt the Afghan civil war.

The charter of the 15-nation council prohibits debate on domestic issues.

"In seeking a Security Council debate, the regime has resorted to its standard litany of baseless and irrelevant allegations against Pakistan in an attempt to portray the situation inside Afghanistan as a bilateral problem with Pakistan that would threaten international peace," the statement said.

Afghanistan's official radio has repeatedly accused Pakistan of sending military personnel into Afghanistan to direct rebel attacks against government troops. Pakistan denies any direct involvement in the civil war, though it has helped armed the rebels and provides them sanctuary.

In Saturday's statement, Pakistan vowed to "take all the necessary measures to defend itself, and the lives and property of its citizens against such attacks."

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Pakistani Foreign Office and warned that "responsibility for serious consequences that arise from such an attack rests entirely on the Kabul government."

The missile was believed to have been launched from the Afghan capital, about 190 kilometres west of the Pakistan border.

Moscow gave Scud missiles to its Afghan allies last November despite protests from Pakistan.



Israeli soldiers stand watch over arrested Palestinians in the occupied West Bank

Israeli soldiers increasingly discontented over uprising

By Allyn Fisher
The Associated Press

TEL AVIV — In increasingly public forums, some Israeli soldiers are questioning their role in putting down the 16-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The questions, previously expressed by soldiers mostly in private, are surfacing these days in letters to newspapers and members of parliament. They also came up in an angry exchange with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir when he visited reserve paratroopers in the West Bank.

Some of the more than 100,000 Israeli soldiers who have served in the occupied territories feel guilty over harsh methods used against youthful stone throwers.

Others feel the army has gotten an undeserved, mean image and believe the converse is true: that soldiers' scruples get in the way of effectively halting the revolt.

Soldiers also tell of being demoralized by confrontations with Palestinian youths who curse them and hurl stones even under gunfire, making troops feel they are fighting a losing battle. The frustration often makes them lose their tempers.

Combat training, they add, has left them unprepared to fight civil insurrection, where soldiers must hesitate to open fire because their enemies do not use guns. Some soldiers were sent to quell protests while still in basic training.

Moshe Golan, a reserve paratrooper, was among soldiers and army officials interviewed by the Associated Press on their role in the occupied lands.

"I feel constant conflict," said Golan, who served two months in the West Bank during the rebel-

lion. "After all, an Arab is a human being. But even the most moderate guys tend to get this feeling they have to grab the first Arab and take out all their anger on him, to beat him or break his bones."

He told of a lieutenant named Itzik who charged into an Arab home a year ago in pursuit of a stone thrower who injured a fellow soldier. Itzik began haphazardly hitting the Arab on the head with a night stick on beds to rouse a suspect, but stopped when he saw a quiver under one bedcover. It turned out to be a baby boy.

"He went crazy thinking that if he hadn't stopped hanging that stick in time, he would have killed that baby," Golan said.

'Confused'

Reserve artilleryman Doru Ehrlich, 36, said his service in the West Bank town of Qalqilya left him confused.

"I have a guilty conscience... about doing things like going into homes to arrest people," Ehrlich said. "You go to conduct an arrest. They're all sleeping on the floor. A small boy wakes up with your gun in his face. I think of my own son."

But Ehrlich said he thought the army had no choice but to use a heavy hand against Arab protesters and perhaps should try even stronger measures.

"I've gotten to the point where I'm sick of it all. We have to make a decision. Either get an order to open up machine-gun fire on them or to the contrary. But just get this over with," he said.

He described losing his temper after he gave some youngsters candy, then spotted them gathering stones to throw at his patrol.

"I wanted to slam somebody I was so angry. It makes you feel like doing things you don't want to do. They get you into such a mood that even if you want to remain human, they don't let you," he said.

Ehrlich said he searched a week for one of the boys, who looked about 10 or 11 years old. He finally found the youth at home and smacked him in the head.

"Even if you love children, at that same moment you're going to hit him. It's just because you're there," he said.

Shamir, facing anger and frustration on a visit to troops in the West Bank, tried to encourage them by blaming the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and saying Israel's "security" was at stake.

"They force us to bear arms," he said.

Army officials have repeatedly said troops open fire only when their lives are in danger from barrages of stones. Among the six troops killed in the uprising, one has died in a stoning incident. More than 420 Palestinians have died in the revolt, most from army gunfire at stone-throwing protesters.

But some soldiers said they rarely felt danger under barrages of stones, and added that anger or a hurt sense of national pride could spur violent reactions to stone throwers.

They also say that orders on when to open fire or beat protesters are too vague.

Controversy over these orders has emerged in the still-unfinished trial of four troops charged with fatally beating a 42-year-old Palestinian man in the Gaza Strip last August.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Philippine envoy denies spying report

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Philippine embassy in Amman has denied an allegation that Filipino workers employed abroad were spying for Israel. "The Philippine embassy categorically denies the statement of Mr. Nur Misuari, leader of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), that Filipino workers are spying for Israel," said a statement issued by the Philippine ambassador to Jordan, Juan V. Saez. "This is a vicious and blatant falsehood that the MNLF is circulating to destroy the good name and livelihood of the thousands of Filipinos working in friendly Arab countries," it said. "This is Misuari's cheap revenge against the Philippine government for the MNLF's failure to gain full membership at the Organisation of Islamic Conference. The Philippine government is confident that with the proven integrity, integrity and loyalty of Filipino workers to their employers, this MNLF propaganda will be dismissed as a big lie."

Meningitis kills 73 in Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — Meningitis killed 73 people in Sudan last week, a senior health official was quoted Sunday as saying. Dr. Sadeq Mahjoub Al Tayeb, director of the endemic diseases department, told the Sudan News Agency (SUNA) that the dead included people in the capital Khartoum. SUNA said 94 people had died from meningitis the previous week and only three of Sudan's nine regions were free of the disease.

Floods in Iran wash away 40 villages

NICOSIA (R) — Floods in eastern Iran have washed away 40 villages, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported Sunday. The agency, reporting from Zahedan close to the borders with Pakistan and Afghanistan, gave no details of any casualties.

Qatar pardons 74 prisoners

NICOSIA (R) — The Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani, pardoned 74 prisoners Sunday on the occasion of holy month of Ramadan, the Qatari News Agency reported.

Bhutto to visit Turkey in May

ANKARA (R) — Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto will pay an official visit to Turkey May 24-27, the Turkish Foreign Ministry said Sunday. Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and Bhutto will review bilateral relations and discuss regional and international issues, a ministry statement said. Turkish President Kenan Evren visited Pakistan in February.

Turkey weeds out fundamentalists

ISTANBUL (AP) — Nearly 100 cadets in Turkey's military schools have been dismissed by military authorities for engaging in Muslim fundamentalist activities, Turkish newspapers reported Sunday. The daily Milliyet quoted Turkey's chief of staff General Necip Torumtay as saying, "up to now 95 cadets have been dismissed from military schools for engaging in 'ritual' activities," using the Turkish word referring to religious fundamentalism. Torumtay did not say when the cadets were discharged or what specific activities they had carried out. Milliyet said. The officers corps of the 800,000-strong Turkish armed forces is one of the main defenders of secularism, which is considered the linchpin of the modern Turkish republic founded by Kemal Ataturk in the 1920's.

Rains wreak havoc in S. Yemen, Djibouti

BAHRAIN (R) — Heavy rain lashed South Yemen Sunday destroying houses in the worst floods to hit the country in 50 years.

The Aden News Agency, contacted by telephone, said 29 homes had collapsed as heavy rain hit Shabwa province, 300 kilometres south of the capital Aden, for the third consecutive day.

Helicopters were carrying relief aid to people whose homes had been destroyed or damaged in parts of Al Mahara province. In Lahej province, rain had caused heavy damage to crops, the agency said.

It gave no further details but officials have said at least 18 people have been killed and nearly 50,000 made homeless in the floods.

South Yemen has a population of about 2.5 million people.

4 killed in Djibouti

At least four people were killed and an estimated 150,000 were made homeless in widespread flooding after torrential rains in the northeast African state of Djibouti last week, officials said Sunday.

The rains last Thursday isolated Djibouti city from the surrounding area, with roads flooded to a depth of more than a metre. Djibouti Radio said President Hassan Gouled Aptidon had been holding emergency meetings with ministers to assess the situation, and was appealing for international assistance.

Police, troops and members of the French army garrison stationed in the former French colony have been distributing food to homeless people.

More than 3,000 people were driven from their homes by floods in southern Tanzania when the Rufiji river burst its banks after five days of heavy rain, Radio Tanzania reported Sunday. The radio, monitored in Nairobi, said thousands of acres of food crops were inundated.

4 PSF fighters killed in clash with Israelis

SIDON (AP) — A dissident Palestinian faction said Sunday that four of its fighters, including a woman, were killed in a clash with Israeli navymen off the South Lebanon coast as they headed for an unspecified mission in Israel.

The Palestine Popular Struggle Front, which is opposed to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leadership's peace overtures, said in a terse statement that an Israeli naval patrol intercepted the fighters off Ras Al Bayyada, 10 kilometres north of the Israeli border.

"They were on their way to our Palestinian coast in a rubber dinghy," said the statement which was released in the port of Sidon.

"Our fighters fired rockets at the Israeli enemy boats. The enemy used all kinds of weapons in the clash and dropped flares that lit the whole area," the statement said.

In a later statement, the PSF said the fighters were all killed. It identified the woman as Nabida Ahmad Mahmoud Mrad, a Lebanese national. Her comrades were listed as Mounir Ahmad Al

Aarsaj, a Syrian, Fawzi Shehadeh Badawi, a Palestinian, and Issam Mohammad Al Baba, a Syrian.

A Fijian officer, manning a coastal observation post near Ras Al Bayyada, said the clash lasted for four hours.

"It was a real naval battle. I counted 45 flares," said the officer who serves with the United Nations peacekeeping force in South Lebanon. He requested anonymity.

The PSF is headed by Samir Ghosheh.

An Israeli army spokesman said an Israeli patrol boat sank the dinghy and that all aboard were killed.

Last week, the Israeli navy stopped two Lebanese boats on their way to Cyprus and detained a group of alleged Palestinian fighters on board. Nine of these are still in custody, Israel's army radio said Sunday.

Washington has expressed concern over recent infiltration attempts by fighters from Lebanon. But the PLO has insisted that its renunciation of terrorism does not mean a halt in resistance operations against Israeli military targets.

Early election seen as inevitable in Turkey

By Hugh Pope
Reuters

ANKARA — An early general election is looming in Turkey as the inevitable result of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's shock local poll defeat March 26, diplomats say.

Ozal has served warning, however, that he will not be rushed, raising the prospect of political tension amid growing labour unrest over high inflation and low wages.

In a spirited speech to parliament in a vote of confidence debate Thursday Ozal did not rule out early elections.

But pointing to his centre-right Motherland Party deputies, a large majority, he asked the opposition: "Can you force this large group to go to early elections just because you want to?"

Opposition parties insist that Ozal's Motherland cannot con-

tinue with two-thirds of the 450 parliamentary seats after winning only 22 per cent of the vote and finishing third in nationwide voting for local officials.

"If Mr. Ozal drags his feet, then we are going to have lots of trouble," conservative True Path Party (DYP) leader Suleyman Demirel told foreign reporters, hinting that a weakened government would not be able to control far-left extremists.

But diplomats say surprise demonstrations, bombs aimed at big companies and a continuing Kurdish insurgency in the southeast are still far short of the urban violence seen in the coalition-plagued 1970s when up to 25 people were killed a day.

And while the economy is depressed, there is no firm sign that Turkey's economic miracle of the 1980s will collapse.

"There will definitely be early elections, the only question is when," said Oktay Eksi, chief columnist of the mass-circulation Hurriyet newspaper.

Elections could be held in September or at the same time as November's vote for a new president, diplomats believe, but constitutionally Ozal has a five-year mandate dating from the 1987 election.

A factor helping Ozal is that none of his opponents stands close to majority support. Demirel's followers won 25 per cent of the local vote. The Social Democrat Populist Party led by Erdal Inonu topped the poll with 28 per cent.

Over 60 per cent of votes remained on the night of the political spectrum, as usual in Turkey, and some Western diplomats predict that Ozal and Demirel would be forced to go into a coalition after any elec-

tion. But the two men are currently bitter opponents and Demirel, a former prime minister, has so far ruled out any talk of cooperation with his one-time protegee.

Change, but how?

The local poll indicated widespread desire among Turkish voters for a change from Ozal, but an opinion survey in NOKTA Magazine found no common view of how it should be done.

A third of respondents wanted an early election. A third wanted Ozal's resignation. A third wanted Ozal's Motherland Party to continue to 1992.

Ozal's control of parliament ensures that Tuesday's vote of confidence is a foregone conclusion, but the long-term unity of his party is the subject of continued debate.

Ozal has dropped two close relations and banished Islamic religious rightists, promoting pro-Western, free-market liberals to freshen his image.

Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz, a 42-year-old liberal seen as Ozal's new number two, said the Motherland would have to adopt some Social Democrat themes to retake the political centre.

But the religious right controls the party grass roots and can muster half the votes in the Motherland Party's parliamentary group for the election of party officials.

"You cannot stay in the centre while the four horsemen of the apocalypse are dragging Turkey forcefully to the right and to the left," said Mehmet Kececi, the Motherland's leading fundamentalist who was excluded from Ozal's new cabinet.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-14

PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Kuran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programmes
17:10 Children of the World
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 World News
18:20 Arabic series
19:40 Local programme
19:45 Programme review
20:30 News in Arabic
20:35 Arabic series
21:30 Programme review
21:45 Monday Forum
22:20 Variety show
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Variety show (cont.)

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Documentary
19:00 News in French
19:15 Weekly Sport magazine
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:30 Kate and Alice
21:10 Thirty Something
21:20 News in English
22:20 Jack and Mike

PRAYER TIMES

6:30 Fajr
05:00 (Sunrise) Doha
11:37 Dhahr
15:12 'Asr

CHURCHES

18:05 Maghreb
19:25 'Isha

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swarthich
Tel. 810741
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.
632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624940
Church of the Annunciation Tel.
637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Church of the Annunciation Tel.
623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel.
625411
Armenian Catholic Church Tel.
771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.
775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel.
683326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.
811295
Rainbow Congregation Tel. 822405
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-
Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of
Meteorology.
It will be relatively hot with the
appearance of clouds at different alti-
tudes. Winds will be light and variable

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Fawzi Haddadin 777751
Dr. Fakher Bultaji 625778
Dr. Taysir Khader 608857
Dr. Abbas Hakim 691236
First pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asema pharmacy 637055
Nairookh pharmacy 623672

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Rescue 199
Civil Defence Emergency 637777
Fire Brigades 62290953
Blood Bank 721271
Highway Police 656302
Traffic Police 656302
Public Security Department 656000 / 685111
Hotel Complaints 628800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 818131/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 642816
Akleh Maternity, J. Amn. 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsi 6641714
Shamsi Hospital 661251
University Hospital 845845
Al-Mushtak Hospital 6572719

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal
Jordanian (RJ) information depart-
ment at the Queen Alia International
Airport Tel. (08)5200-5, where it
should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

09:10 Agaba (RJ)
09:10 Damascus (RJ)
09:30 Cairo (RJ)
09:35 Sana'a (RJ)
09:40 Kuwait (RJ)
09:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:15 Larana (RJ)
10:45 Cairo (RJ)
11:30 New York, Vienna (RJ)
12:10 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
12:30 Bangkok (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:10 Sana'a (LH)
09:35 Cairo (MS)
12:15 Baghdad (IA)
12:35 Bahrain (GF)
12:55 Paris (AF)
23:15 Baghdad (AF)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:05 Agaba (RJ)
11:00 Brussels, Montreal, New York (RJ)
11:45 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:30 Cairo (RJ)
12:50 Jeddah (RJ)
13:00 Kuwait, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
13:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
14:10 Baghdad (RJ)
14:30 Cairo (RJ)
20:30 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:30 Cairo, London (BA)
10:10 Frankfurt (LH)
10:20 Cairo (MS)
12:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Sharjah (GF)
13:30 Baghdad (IA)
18:20 Baghdad (AF)
09:15 Paris (AF)

MARKET PRICES

Up/down price in fils per kg.

Almond 400 / 360
Apple 500 / 400
Banana 350 / 300
Beans (Mukassar) 300 / 250
Beans 600 / 500
Broad beans 170 / 140
Cabbage 90 / 60
Carrots 170 / 120
Cauliflower 220 / 180
Caulis 370 / 300
Dates 380 / 500
Eggplant 330 / 280
Garlic 250 / 180
Lemon 430 / 370
Lettuce (per one) 120 / 100
Onion (green) 160 / 120
Marrow (large) 130 / 100
Marrow (small) 210 / 160
Orange (Shamouti) 450 / 400
Orange (local) 380 / 340
Onion (dry) 180 / 150
Onion (green) 160 / 120
Pepper (hot) 600 / 500
Pepper (sweet) 320 / 240
Potato 300 / 240
Spinach 180 / 140
Strawberry 1400 / 1000
Tomatoes 550 / 500

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING GETS MORE CABLES: His Majesty King Hussein received further cables of good wishes from heads of Arab and friendly nations on the start of the holy month of Ramadan. Cables came from the president of the Maldives, and the governor of holy city of Medina in Saudi Arabia (Petra).

RAMADAN SOUQ: Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh will open Ramadan Souq (open air market) at Mahatta eastern Amman Tuesday. The Souq, which was set up by the General Union of Voluntary Societies in cooperation with Greater Amman Municipality, has 340 stores selling products at competitive prices and has wings for children's recreational activities (Petra).

ROAD ACCIDENTS: The Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents held a seminar in Irbid Sunday to discuss road accidents and means of reducing their numbers. A number of specialists and university professors addressed the meeting (Petra).

PROJECTS IN SALT: Salt municipality last year spent JD 800,000 on a number of municipal and public projects in the city. The mayor, Abdul Razzak Nsour said that funds were spent on widening streets, building culverts, setting up public gardens and installing sports facilities (Petra).

QASSOUS CONFIRMED: The Council of Ministers Sunday confirmed the appointment of Aktham Qassous as director of the prime minister's office, thus terminating his erstwhile secondment from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Qassous will hold the grade of special class officer, at the Prime Ministry.

JORDAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: Chairman of the Amman Chamber of Industry Khaldoun Abu Hassan said Sunday that the proposed Jordan Chamber of Commerce will set up a complete information system, providing detailed information about all industrial potentials in various governorates. The new chamber has been proposed by the provincial development seminars with the aim of drawing up a comprehensive framework for all industrial institutions (Petra).

VEGETABLE MARKET IN RUSEIFA: Cities and Villages Development Bank has approved a request by Ruseifa municipality to get a JD 30,000 loan to be used for the construction of a central vegetable market in the town (Petra).

Assad to look into ways for transferring funds for students

AMMAN (J.T.) — Higher Education Minister Nassereddin Al Assad said he would discuss with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai issues pertaining to transfers in foreign currencies to Jordanian students attending foreign universities.

In a report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily, Assad was responding to requests by Jordanian citizens asking that they transfer foreign

currency to their children according to the official exchange rates.

However, Assad pointed out that although this issue is related to the country's financial policy and does not fall under the prerogative of his ministry, he will bring this issue up with Rifai in a bid to ensure that students pursue their studies without interruption.

Jordan's handicapped athletes win 3 gold medals

AMMAN (Petra) — Members of the delegation from the Jordan Sports Federation for the Handicapped (JSFH) returned home Sunday from the United States where they took part in the Winter Olympics for the Handicapped and won three golden medals and a bronze medal.

Ziad Salahi won a gold medal in the 100 metre race, while Khalil Kurdi and Hassan Aref won two gold medals in the 300 metre race.

Salahi also won a bronze medal in the 300 metre race.

Taking part in the week-long event, which concluded in California Saturday were handicapped athletes from 70 countries from all over the world.

The Jordanian team was received upon arrival by Samir Bisharat and Suhair Aladdin, members of the board of directors of the JSFH, who stood in for Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ad Ibn Zaid, Chairman of the Federation.

Arida gets new post

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai approved the appointment of Issam Arida as Director General of Al Hussein Youth City starting April 8. Arida will remain in his post as director general of Dar Al Shaab Co. until the appointment of a new director general (J.T.).



Issam Arida

Seminar seeks to improve performance of teachers

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A week-long training seminar to promote the performance and skills of 60 school and vocational training supervisors ended in Amman, with the participants calling on the concerned authorities to expand the basis of vocational training in the private sector to meet the needs of the local industry.

A statement issued at the end of the meetings also called for the development of the administrative services that control training and the involvement of personnel in vocational work in preparing training programmes.

The statement also called for increasing courses for instructors in what is known as on-the-job

training, in order to update their performance and skills.

The participants discussed eight working papers dealing mainly with vocational training and the role of supervisors in the process of training and teaching.

The training seminar was designed to contribute to the implementation of resolutions taken by the First National Educational Conference in 1987 which discussed means of overhauling the educational process in the Kingdom.

The Ministry of Education at present employs 360 supervisors to help direct teachers and instructors at schools and vocational centres in various specialisations.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Sunday visits the Ministry of Tourism (Petra photo)

Queen Noor visits Tourism Ministry

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Sunday visited the Ministry of Tourism where she was met by the Minister of Tourism Yanal Hikmat and heads of departments at the ministry.

Hikmat thanked the Queen for her support and faith in their efforts and pledged to continue to encourage national and international tourism in Jordan.

The Queen was briefed on the activities of the ministry and their existing and future plans to highlight the cultural and archaeological sites in the Kingdom.

At the end of her visit, Queen Noor praised the work of the ministry and their plans to increase tourism to the Kingdom and within it, all the time preserving Jordan's social and cultural standards.

Envoy to Saudi Arabia organising participation in expatriates meeting

RIYADH (J.T.) — Jordan's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Nasser Al Bataineh has announced that contacts are underway between the embassy and the Jordanian expatriates working in Saudi Arabia to pave the way for their participation in the fifth Jordanian Expatriates Conference which will be held in July 1989.

The ambassador, in a statement to Al Dustour Arabic daily, said that the labour attaché at the embassy is involved in cooperating with representatives of these expatriates to prepare working papers to be submitted to the coming conference.

At least 160,000 Jordanians now live and work in Saudi Arabia and they enjoy respect and excellent treatment by the Saudi authorities, the ambassador said.

He added that most of the Jordanians are doctors, teachers and engineers, and that only two per cent of the total number of Jordanian expatriates in Saudi Arabia are workers.

Some of the businesses and government departments are careful to employ Jordanians only in view of their good performance and their high calibre, the ambassador noted.

The Jordanian embassy here strives to make the expatriates stay in Saudi Arabia even more comfortable and profitable by

providing them with facilities in obtaining documents, renewing passports, etc., the ambassador added.

Aqaba fertiliser company to increase production

AMMAN (Petra) — The Aqaba-based Jordan Fertiliser Industries Company is now being expanded to increase its production to 830,000 tonnes annually up from 640,000 tonnes, according to the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) Director General Wasaf Azar.

Azar said that this is being done in the course of implementing resolutions by a seminar held in Aqaba in the past week to seek measures for developing the economy of the southern regions of Jordan.

At present the JPMC is holding contacts with a number of industrial companies in Japan, India, the Soviet Union and Pakistan to set up a number of industrial schemes in the southern regions of the Kingdom as a contribution towards the implementation of the resolutions which were taken

at meetings held under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

So far, he said, initial agreement has been reached with a group of Japanese companies to build a plant in Jordan to produce compound fertilisers.

The projected plant, he said, will have a 400,000 tonne capacity annually and most of the products will be exported to Japan.

In addition, agreement has been concluded with a number of Indian companies to set up a plant for the processing of phosphoric acid which will be exported to Indian markets, Azar noted.

Earlier, agreement was reached with a Soviet firm to set up a fertiliser plant with an annual productive capacity of 260,000 tonnes, Azar added.

Jordan to take part in Helsinki talks on ozone layer protection

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Jordan is to take part in a general conference to be held in Helsinki, Finland, on April 26 to discuss further measures for the protection of the ozone layer, according to a cabinet decision Sunday.



Marwan Hmoud

issues related to customs. The meeting, which is to be held in Washington in July will be attended by Mr. Adel Qudah, director general of the Customs Department.

Jordan is one of the signatories of an international agreement signed in Vienna to provide protection to the ozone layer and the atmosphere.

Jordan's delegation to the Helsinki conference, the cabinet said, will be led by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Hmoud.

It said that the meeting will discuss the implementation of protocols attached to the Vienna agreement and to find suitable machinery for the implementation of its provisions.

Hmoud last month represented Jordan at the signing of an international agreement on controlling the process of dumping dangerous waste. Hmoud was one of 110 representatives to sign the documents at the Swiss city of Basel.

Apart from the agreement known as the "International

Agreement on the Trans-Boundary Movement of Perilous Waste," Hmoud signed documents paving the way for cooperation among Third World nations in protecting the environment and the atmosphere.

According to the cabinet statement, Jordan will take part in the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) 15th meeting which will open in Nairobi, Kenya, on April 15.

The meeting, which will also be attended by Hmoud, will discuss subjects related to the world environment situation from now until the year 2000.

The Nairobi meeting will discuss changes in the world's climate, destruction of the ozone layer and the disposal of dangerous waste, according to the cabinet statement.

The cabinet also announced that a Jordanian delegation will take part in a meeting to discuss



Assad receives French envoy

MINISTER of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad Sunday received French ambassador to Jordan Patrick Leclercq on the occasion of the French ambassador's end of his tour of duty in Jordan. They discussed Jordanian-French relations and cooperation in cultural and higher educational fields (Petra photo)

For those who live in a world of silence

By Suhair Obeidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Living in an isolated world of silence, those whose hearing is impaired are somewhat detached from what goes on around them. It is like watching a silent movie — no sound, no music and with no feeling of immediate interaction between the actors and the passive audience.

In 1978 a hearing and speech centre was established in Amman upon the instructions of Her Majesty the late Queen Alia, who spearheaded the project but never got to see it realised. "In order to execute this project, we visited the advanced specialised centres in the Scandinavian countries to receive expert advice and consultation on how to run a centre for the hearing impaired. Then we came back and founded the Queen Alia Society for Hearing and Speech," President of the society, Hasan Touqan told the Jordan Times.

After years of hard work, the society grew and has become a

leading foundation for hearing and speech. Recently, the foundation celebrated its tenth anniversary. During a ten year period, the society came a long way and accomplished a great deal with the support of and in collaboration with the Italian government.

The Italian government provides aid to developing countries with these kinds of projects through its executive agency COTECNO. As a result of a three year technical assistance agreement, the Italian government provides the foundation with experts, technical assistance and scholarships (for the staff working at the foundation).

"This is the second agreement which is currently being under study for another three year renewal, (after its expiry in October 1990). The first agreement was renewed in 1984," Touqan said.

Though it is an independent foundation of the private sector, it works under the umbrella of the Ministry of Social Development. The foundation works closely with UNRWA, the Uni-

versity of Jordan and a number of small organisations active in the field of hearing and speech. "We have also effectively utilised the communication media in building public awareness with respect to its areas of competence," she said.

A yearly budget of JD 100,000 within which the foundation operates, is collected through local and foreign funding from concerned individuals and bodies.

"The society has the most advanced centre in the Arab World that is specialised in this particular field so, patients come from different Arab countries like Syria, Libya, Bahrain, Yemen and Saudi Arabia. The total number of patients examined by the centre throughout the ten year period reached 11,600, 80 per cent of which were children," Touqan said.

Department of Audiology (which handles all tests for bearing assessment), a department of hearing aids which is responsible for all spare parts including fitting and repairs, mould making, maintenance and the testing of output of the hearing aids.

The maintenance department deals with the maintenance of all equipment donated by the Italian government. "Within the framework of the agreement concluded between the Italian government and the foundation we have recently received 750 hearing aids to be distributed to our patients," Touqan said.

Cochlear implantation

Another is the speech rehabilitation department which is equipped with all the necessary modern set-up for conducting the therapeutic measures for both children and adolescents. A fifth department is the one concerned with cochlear implantation. "This department conducts the preoperative and postoperative training of totally deaf patients who undergo surgery," Touqan explained.

The departments are supervised and run by five doctors and six teachers who all received training course abroad.

Due to the availability of advanced technologies, the Queen Alia Foundation takes credit for having accomplished the first hearing assessment to be conducted in the Kingdom in 1983/



The mobile clinic of the Queen Alia Foundation for Hearing and Speech reaches people in distant areas.

1984. From there, the foundation started cooperating with other official organisations and conducted all kinds of hearing and speech surveys. During 1987 and 1988, they coordinated with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), and conducted a specific screening survey in a geographically limited area in the suburbs of Amman. As a result, 1,400 children were given free hearing aids as well as speech therapy training.

Today, the foundation still carries out its philosophy of offering its services free of charge to the needy. Recently, the foundation distributed 80 free hearing aids to the children at the Ruseifa Centre, fitting as well as maintenance were included.

"The mobile clinic, which was a gift from the Italian government, enables us to reach help-needing people in distant areas. Also, for instance, we went to the desert and carried out a study about noise and its effect on the hearing sense, by comparing the desert to noisy areas," Touqan said.

Mobile clinic

Talking about the future projects which the society plans to carry out, Touqan said that they are going to build centres in different parts of the country. Each centre will include a small

clinic and will be run by trained teachers who will be visited by the mobile clinic to receive any needed help.

In the current year, and for the first time in Jordan, the Queen Alia Foundation is to begin publishing a journal on hearing and speech. "It aims at creating a link between the concerned parties in the Arab World and the Mediterranean region, providing them with information about the problems of hearing and speech," she said.

For that purpose too, the foundation will also organise and sponsor the first Pan Arab conference on hearing and speech, which will be attended by international and Arab figures.

On the short run, the Queen Alia Foundation for Hearing and Speech will organise a week for the hearing impaired child, starting April 13. The week will include fashion shows and other activities.

TENDER'S NOTICE

The Projects Directorate/Ministry of Education announces the issuing of the following tenders which are part of the 7th Educational Project No. 2890-JO, sponsored by the World Bank.

Tender's No.	Title	Fees. JD
1/89	Computer Maintenance	10,000
2/89	W/Shop	10,000
3/89	Computer	10,000
4/89	Passenger Vehicles	10,000
5/89	A truck crane	10,000
6/89	Laboratories' equip	15,000
7/89	Audio Visual Aids	50,000

Interested bidders are invited to collect tenders, documents from Procurement Division at the Projects Directorate/Ministry of Education, starting April 10, 1989, against the payment of the above fees.

Closing date will be 10.00 a.m. of June 11, 1989.

Head of Special Tenders Committee
Dr. Munther Al Masri

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition displaying paintings by children at the Housing Bank Complex.
- ★ A plastic art exhibition by Musa Ajjawi at the Yarmouk University.
- ★ An art exhibition by Dr. Abdo Kashout of the Fine Arts Department at the Yarmouk University.

LECTURE

- ★ A lecture by the Kingdom's Mufti Sheikh Isma'een Tamimi entitled "Divorce as a solution for a social problem" at the University of Jordan Biology Auditorium — 12:00 noon.

FILM

- ★ A French film entitled "Lola Montes" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:30 p.m.



A Queen Alia Foundation expert inspects a hearing impaired child.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

جوردن تايمز يومية عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

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RAKAN AL MAJALI

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Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times Advertising Department.

Give Arab League the chance

TECHNICALLY speaking the Lebanese crisis has two dimensions, one regional and the other international. The former bestows jurisdiction on the Arab League and the latter on the United Nations and the U.N. Security Council specifically speaking. It is common knowledge that any threat to regional peace and security comes within the orbit of the international organisation and its principal organs. Likewise, being a member of the Arab League, Lebanon and its dilemma would fall squarely within the purview of the Arab League charter and jurisdiction.

Viewed against that backdrop, the French initiative to place the deteriorating Lebanese conflict before the U.N. Security Council is technically sound but pragmatically inappropriate. As long as the Arab League is seized with the situation in Lebanon and the six member Arab League ministerial committee is still continuing its reconciliation mandate, it would be unwise to accord the U.N. Security Council a concurrent jurisdiction at this time. When and if the Arab League declares its failure in its mission to resolve the Lebanese conflict, then it would not only be in order but highly necessary for the U.N. Security Council to exercise its jurisdiction over a crisis that clearly threatens international and regional peace and security. That is why the United Nations and its main organs must defer to the Arab League at this stage but must be prepared to assume its duties and obligations as soon as the Arab League involvement proves ineffective.

It goes without saying that the U.N. Security Council cannot wait indefinitely for the Arab League to come into grips with the Lebanese question. The patience of international community and the Arab World must be wearing very thin by now. One cannot continue to watch the killing and destruction go unabated for much longer without making a final stand against them. To sum up, the Arab efforts must be given priority but if they fail, then the Arab World, if only by default, must give way to the international community.



JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

The three Jordanian Arabic dailies Sunday tackled the Palestine question in the light of visits to Washington by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. Al Ra'i daily said that now that these two visits are over, great hopes are attached to King Hussein's visit to the American capital and his talks with President Bush and Secretary of State James Baker, both of whom have displayed genuine interest in settling the Arab-Israeli conflict. The paper referred to a statement to Reuters by Information Minister Hani Khasawneh in which he emphasised that Shamir's position is not conducive to peace since the Israeli premier insists on rejecting the international peace conference and persists in accusing the PLO of acts of terrorism. The paper said that the coming meeting in Washington between Bush and King Hussein will be of paramount importance because the King will no doubt reassert the Arab position and will urge the American administration to respond to the will of the international community by holding the projected peace conference. The paper expressed hope that Bush will eventually move towards ending Israel's intransigence and exert pressure on the Zionist state to respond to the call of peace.

Al Dustour daily newspaper for its part said that the U.S. officials have shown the world their keen interest in resolving the Middle East problem but have been confronted with Shamir's intransigent and obstinate stand. The paper said that Shamir's proposals for elections in the occupied Arab territories under Israeli rule can only be described as another major obstacle laid in the path of peace, impeding the work of the U.S. administration and the rest of the world community towards ending the conflict. Shamir's proposals, as were described by the information minister Saturday as placing new obstacles in the path of peace and are far from responding to its requirements since they ignore the PLO and the Arab countries demands, the paper noted. It said that Shamir's proposals as presented to Washington were no more than a manoeuvre intended to obstruct any meaningful action towards peace, simply because they contain no acceptance of the projected international peace conference. The paper said that the proposed elections are only meant to contain the intifada and end the Palestinian people's struggle for freedom.

Sawt Al Shaab daily said that the Arabs attach great importance to a visit to Washington on April 19 by His Majesty King Hussein. The paper noted that the King's talks with Bush and the American administration are bound to focus on the Arab-Israeli question and therefore they are important specially as they come in the wake of meetings involving Bush with the Egyptian president and the Israeli prime minister. The paper said that King Hussein will not only re-emphasise the basic principles for a just settlement through an international conference but will also urge the U.S. administration to respond favourably to the PLO stand and the Arab Nation's genuine orientation towards peace. The King's visit, according to the paper, is important since it comes in the wake of the exposure of Shamir's real intentions of holding elections in the occupied Arab territories, a move which was clearly intended as a means to end the intifada.

Weekly Political Pulse

By Waleed Sadi

First things first

IT SEEMS to me that there are more things going on in and around the peace process than meets the eye. One thing is certainly clear now: All that is going on informally and formally between some of the players in the Middle Eastern politics is not being conducted in a vacuum. The perimeters of the projected settlement between the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict are being painstakingly drawn and slowly but surely put in definite shape and form. Semantically, the words that are often used to delineate these perimeters include such words as elections, interim solutions, PLO participation, international conference — which would include Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Lebanon. The jargon introduced recently by President George Bush, during his talks with President Hosni Mubarak, included the call for an end to Israeli occupation of the Arab territories occupied in the war of 1967, the fulfillment of the Palestinian political rights, and the convening of a properly structured international conference. Of course this is not to mention the chorus singing about the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 ever since 1967.

So the Middle East pot is full to its outer limits with ideas, principles and dictums. What is left is to introduce the strings of thoughts on the Middle East in proper order, in suitable doses and at the right time. Take for example the notion of conducting elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Standing alone, on its

own and on its own merits, it could be either good or bad depending on its timing, correlation and relationship with the other features of the projected settlement. If relatively in Middle Eastern politics and diplomacy has any application, it is now — when one talks about elections in the occupied territories. Yet across the wide spectrum of interpretation, the thought of elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is open for construction: either a red herring or decoy thrown deliberately to derail the consensus in favour of holding an international peace conference, or to seek alternative Palestinian representation to the PLO. That could explain the ambivalent feeling among some Palestinians towards the notion of elections and its rejection by the majority of them. This is in spite of the fact that the Palestinian side has always been the champion of democratically elected representatives in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Accordingly what makes any of the words, thoughts or proposals associated with the peace process in the Middle East acceptable or repugnant is their relative place within the greater equation that could serve as the foundation for a durable and just peace between the two sides. Thus if elections were to be deployed as an integral part of a whole process that could lead to an equitable, just and permanent peace in the Middle East through an international peace conference in which all the parties to the conflict including the PLO would participate, then all the

quarrel about it would end and it would cease to be such a contentious issue as it is today. But if elections are intended to serve as a subterfuge to frustrate the PLO's role in the peace process then obviously it should be turned down.

And what applies to elections would apply with equal force to all other ingredients in the Middle East pot. That is why the Arab side including the Palestinians found great comfort and satisfaction with the initial words of President George Bush when he outlined his administration's main features of a settlement in the Middle East as ones to be constructed on the edifice of ending the Israeli occupation of Arab territories, granting the Palestinians their political rights and convening an international conference to which all the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict including the PLO would be invited. The aforementioned propositions as offered by President Bush should constitute the basic ingredients in the Middle East pot. Everything else would be less basic and can be introduced in proper and suitable doses at the right time provided the main elements are left there to cook and simmer. Accordingly if elections are introduced or injected into the overall pot as part and parcel of that pot, no one in his right mind would quarrel with it. But as long as there is fear that elections are thought of only as an end in themselves or as a decoy to replace the PLO's rightful place in the peace process, then one has legitimate cause to flush out this thought and abort its introduction.

Western experts: Soviet arms move could cause NATO problems

By Patrick Worsnip
Reuters

LONDON — Mikhail Gorbachev's announcement on Friday that Moscow is halting production of weapon-grade uranium adds to an already impressive list of Soviet disarmament moves, but Western experts said it was militarily insignificant.

However, some analysts said it could cause new headaches for NATO, which is already embroiled in an internal row over modernisation of its short-range nuclear weapons.

The Soviet leader said during a visit to London his country would cease production of enriched weapon-grade uranium this year. One plutonium-producing reactor had been closed in 1987 and two others would follow by next year, he said.

Gorbachev called this "yet another major step towards the complete cessation of production of fissionable materials for use in weapons."

"This is coming at a very awkward time for NATO, which is why he's saying it," said Malcolm Spaven, a disarmament expert at Britain's Sussex University.

"If it's verifiable, then Gorbachev is on course for his stated aim of eliminating nuclear weapons by the year 2000."

The 16-nation Western alliance is divided over plans to modernise its tactical nuclear arms, especially the ageing Lance missile.

Britain and the United States would like a firm decision at a NATO summit in May but the West German government, believing voters are opposed, wants to delay until after elections next year.

The Soviet Union, well aware of the split in NATO, has repeatedly urged the alliance to abandon its modernisation plan.

Beyond this issue lies a fundamental difference of philosophy, with Gorbachev contesting the view of Western leaders like British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher who say nuclear weapons are essential to deter war.

Most experts said, however, the decision to stop producing weapon-grade uranium was unlikely to blunt Soviet military capacity.

In Brussels, a NATO spokesman said: "... It is our estimate that this will not have much effect since plutonium, because of its commercial uses, is not normally in short supply and there are probably a number of other Soviet reactors capable of producing weapons-grade plutonium."

"It's not going to make any material difference. You can recycle the stuff," said Lawrence Freedman, professor of war studies at King's College, London.

"I think it's a gesture."

A British official said: "Weapon-grade uranium doesn't deteriorate. You don't need to produce any more provided you've got enough."

In the Hague, Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek said it appeared Gorbachev was making a public relations bid.

"He's not serious, van den Broek said of Gorbachev's suggestion that the West risked undermining its relations with the Soviet Union by updating its nuclear arsenal.

symposium held to mark NATO's 40th anniversary.

Nuclear weapons can be made with two types of material — very highly enriched uranium or a pure form of plutonium that can be produced by briefly irradiating uranium.

But, according to Jan Murray of the Uranium Institute in London, there is no published information about the Soviet Union's uranium stockpiles for military or civil purposes.

Most Western diplomats assume it has plenty.

One said the Soviets had recently modernised their strategic weapons and could well afford to halt enriched uranium production.

Diplomats conceded, however, there could be a cumulative effect to Gorbachev's disarmament initiatives. Some have been welcomed in the West but others have been branded propaganda stunts.

Among the unilateral moves announced by Soviet leaders in recent years are:

— A moratorium on nuclear tests, commencing in August 1985. The United States refused to follow suit, saying it needed tests to ensure a reliable deterrent. Moscow, disappointed, ended its moratorium in February 1987.

— A reduction of Soviet armed forces by 50,000 men, including withdrawals from Eastern Europe, announced by Gorbachev last December. NATO countries said this was significant but still left the East-West military balance in the Warsaw Pact's favour.

— A pledge to start destroying chemical weapons stocks this year, announced at a Paris conference in January. The West welcomed it.

— A promise, also in January, that the troops leaving Eastern Europe would take their tactical nuclear weapons with them. Western governments scoffed at this, saying it affected only 24 out of almost 1,400 missile launchers.

By Deborah G. Seward
The Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland — A package of laws approved by deputies Friday ushers in an era of competitive elections that will end the Communist Party's monopoly on power in parliament.

But the Communists may still be able to maintain effective control of parliament by cooperation with allied parties, after elections scheduled in June. A national president, a newly restored institution, will also be in a position to maintain party control of the country for at least the near term.

The first president is widely expected to be the Communist Party leader, Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Four of the six bills passed by parliament directly affect the current political system. The changes take effect immediately.

Passed in a quick series of votes were amendments to the constitution creating the presidency and a freely elected senate, two new laws on elections to the Sejm and the senate and a law on the right of citizens to form associations.

The bills were the result of an agreement reached last week by a working group on political reform that formed part of two months of intensive negotiations between the Solidarity-led opposition and Communist authorities.

The opposition agreed to participate in parliament in exchange for the restoration of the legal status of the independent trade union Solidarity, banned after authorities temporarily imposed martial law in December 1981 to squelch unrest.

"The model of exercising power until now has not fulfilled expectations," Tadeusz Szelachowski, a deputy from the Communist-allied Peasant's Party told parliament in a report on the constitutional amendments.

The post of president already existed in pre-World War II Poland. The 100-member freely elected senate will be the first democratically selected legislative body in the Communist bloc.

The currently existing 460-member Sejm will continue as the "supreme authority of legislative power," but with a difference. Instead of having all Communist or allied candidates, it will have authentic opposition representation.

The Communist Party and its allies are guaranteed 65 per cent of the seats and the remaining 35 per cent will be opened to independent non-party candidates.

Changes to usher in new era in Poland

Until now, the party has had an absolute majority in the Sejm, 245 of the 460 seats. The rest of the seats went to approved independents or to the two other legal parties, the Democratic Party and the United Peasant Party — allied with and in practice subservient to the Communist Party.

But in the new system, the Communist share of the seats is to be less than 50 per cent of the Sejm, so it technically will become a party that must work with its coalition partners to maintain a working majority.

The Democratic Party and the United Peasant Party therefore expect to gain more independence and power from the arrangement, and become more like real parties. The normally fluid debates in the chamber should take on real meaning as there is direct clash from opposing camps.

While the legislative changes are meant to enhance democracy, the presidency is a Communist-inspired brake against disruptions to ensure that the party retains control for the immediate future.

Szelachowski said the president's activity "would be stabilising and moderating, as well as guaranteeing the lasting character and irreversibility of democratic transformations."

The president's term will last six years. He can refuse to sign a bill into law. However, the Sejm can override a presidential veto with a two-thirds vote.

The office of president carries important powers. He chairs the defence council — in effect is the commander-in-chief — and is responsible for ratifying or abrogating foreign agreements.

He can introduce a three-month state of emergency in case of a threat to state security or natural calamity. But the Sejm and senate cannot be dissolved during that time nor can the constitution be changed.

He may dissolve the Sejm and senate and call new elections if the Sejm fails to form a government, fails to pass a budget or if it enacts laws limiting the powers of the president.

Many of the president's powers

currently are exercised by the council of state, a Sejm-approved body of top party officials which the presidency will replace.

The president will be elected jointly by the Sejm and the senate, and the post is expected to go to Jaruzelski due to his party's dominance in the larger Sejm.

Anyone who collects 3,000 signatures can run for the senate or for the 35 per cent of the Sejm seats not guaranteed to the Communist Party and its allies.

Until now, only candidates approved by election commissions made up by the Polish United Workers (Communist) Party and the Allied Peasants Party or Democratic Party could be placed on the ballot.

A citizens' committee of leading Solidarity advisers and leaders created in December by Solidarity leader Lech Walesa plans to meet this week to discuss potential candidates to be presented on behalf of the opposition.

The election law guarantees the opposition access to state-controlled media and the possibility to publish an election newspaper during the campaign.

The senate's primary function will be to act as a control on the Sejm especially "in the field of human rights as well as socio-economic life," the agreement said.

Just like deputies of the Sejm, senators will have the right to propose legislation,



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Features

JORDAN TIMES, MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1989 5

Jordanian art on exhibit in London

London will be the venue for a major convergence of artistic talent in the Islamic world in the autumn of 1989.

By Mary Patrick

LONDON — London has been chosen as the venue for one of the largest exhibitions of contemporary art from the Muslim countries in the autumn of 1989.

"It will be a unique opportunity to view contemporary art of the Islamic world," a spokesperson said. "Not since the World of Islam Festival in 1976 has there been such a comprehensive collection showing the cultural refinement of Islamic countries from Morocco, on the Atlantic coast, to Indonesia in the Far East."

The exhibition is the joint endeavour of Princess Wijdan Ali of Jordan, president of the Royal Society of Fine Arts in that country, and the Islamic Art Foundation in London. Out of more than 1,000 paintings, drawings, prints, ceramics and sculptures on permanent display at the Jordanian national gallery in Amman, some 300 works of art have been chosen for the exhibition in

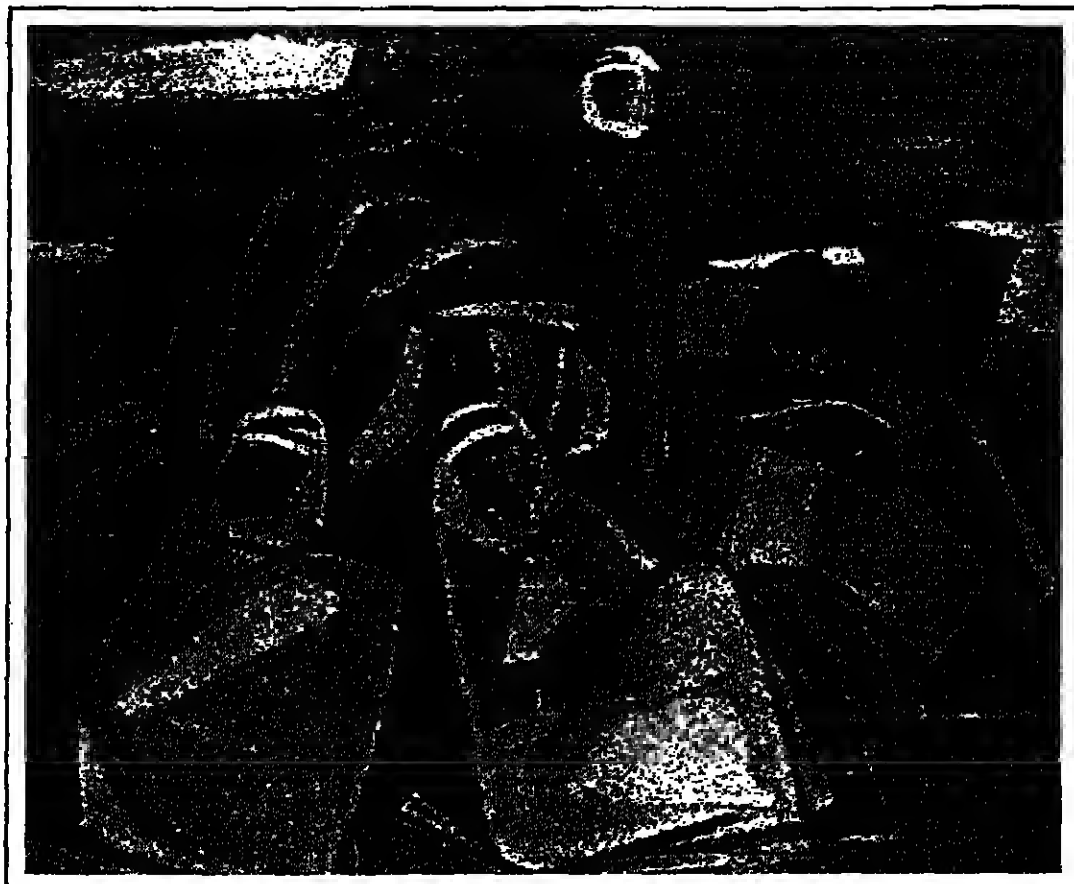
London.

The exhibition, entitled *Contemporary Art from the Islamic World*, will be at the Barbican Centre in London during September and October and then move to other cities in Europe, North America and in the Islamic world.

"The creativity of prominent 20th century artists working in new forms and media in the various Islamic countries will be on display to the international public," said a spokesperson.

George Sorley Whittet, art critic and former editor of *Studio* magazine, said the exhibition presents "a unique conspectus of an increasing sector of contemporary world art."

"What comes through strongly in this fascinating assembly," he added, "is the inherent characteristics of a unifying Islamic heritage, most distinctively of all in the employment of calligraphy — in its literal use of writing beautifully a meaningful name or phrase and as a text of poetry



The Tent, by Faik Hassan, from the collection of Jordan National Gallery.

illustrated on the same page by a graphic interpretative image. "Landscape is a favoured theme with some striking perspectives of hills, town architecture and the mysterious recession of darkness in a desert night, empty yet alive with memory," he said.

"Realism is convincing in scenes of family and community life ... Overall the heartening impression is of a great range of individual creativity relying on the stimulus of life itself to the spirit of the artist resulting in much genuine self-discovery owing nothing to imitative pastiches

of fashionable American and European pictures."

He hoped that the exhibition would "provoke much thought and induce pleasurable response" from the British public. The organisers, who have the patronage of Crown Prince Hassan bin Talal of Jordan, hope the occa-



An untitled watercolour by Baya from the collection of Jordan National Gallery

sion will be a major media event in Britain and that it eventually will spill over into other countries. Alistair Duncan, director of the World of Islam Festival Trust, said it was only appropriate that London should be the venue for the show after the success of the 1976 World of Islam Festival, still

fondly remembered by many Britons. The festival was a 'first', like the forthcoming art exhibition, he said, because "never before had an attempt been made to represent an entire civilisation in the heartland of another."

The organisers hope to public a

book in English and Arabic containing a history of contemporary art in each of the participating countries to coincide with the exhibition. Television stations in Europe and elsewhere are expected to broadcast documentaries during the exhibition — Academic File.



A handful of companies have started pushing a more racially-integrated image for their products, showing a world where blacks and whites mix easily in a friendly social setting.

Bolivia drug fight enters crucial stage

By Richard Waddington

Reuter

VILLA TUNARI, Bolivia — "We are just growers, we are not responsible for the drug trade," said the farmer, moving amid a carpet of coca leaves — the raw material for cocaine.

"Give me another crop that earns as much and I will stop growing it," he said as he carefully turned the leaves spread out to dry under the tropical sun in the Chapare, Bolivia's main coca leaf producing area.

"But I doubt there is one," he added.

Persuading the peasant farmer, with the help of foreign financing, that there are alternatives to coca is a crucial part of the Bolivian government's ambitious programme to undermine the drug trade.

Bolivia ranks second only to Peru as a producer of coca leaf. Although estimates vary widely, it is believed to be responsible for at least 100 tonnes of the cocaine that annually reaches drug users, mainly in the United States.

The government, which calculates Bolivia has some 60,000 hectares of coca plantations, has pledged to reduce the area by 80 per cent, leaving only enough to supply traditional local demand for coca for chewing and making tea.

But after some 2,700 hectares of plantations were voluntarily eliminated by late 1988, the pace has slowed dramatically this year. "We are at a crucial stage," said Anibal Aguilar, the under-secretary for alternative development, who is heading the eradication drive.

Aguilar told reporters he intended to propose a \$620-million package to the country's international backers to finance a plan for crop substitution and economic development in the coca zone over the next five years. But the United States, which is providing some \$50 million in 1989, has linked further financing to rapid progress in the substitution effort.

Along the single paved road that leads into the Chapare, a lowland area of dense tropical vegetation some 250 kilometres east of the capital La Paz, coca leaves dry in the sun before modest wooden houses. A sweet smell

like that of drying hay hangs in the air.

Harvest time — all the time

The coca bush yields a crop every three months and harvesting is not dictated by the seasons. "In the Chapare, every day is harvest time," said one resident. The Chapare produces some 70 per cent of Bolivia's coca. Virtually all of it is turned into cocaine.

The leaves are taken to clandestine laboratories hidden deep inside the tropical zone. There it is turned into coca paste, the first stage on the refining process, before being flown to Colombia.

The coca is bought either directly from the farmer or taken to one of the Chapare's five public markets.

Coca growing is not illegal in Bolivia, but late last year the government put into force legislation that increases the pressure on those supplying drug traffickers.

The authorities rule out using force. "If we attempt to cut off violently (farmers) source of subsistence, they would have to react. We can see from Peru and Colombia that violence just brings more violence," Aguilar said.

The law aims to set a slowly tightening noose around the coca zones. By next June all growers must have registered their acreage, and no more plantations will be permitted.

The law also allows for seizing and burning all coca not destined for legal use. A special drug police, backed by U.S. agents, has stepped up actions against drug traffickers.

In the first two months of 1989, police destroyed 1,290 paste laboratories, 35 per cent of the total discovered in all of 1988, although arrests were running at only half the previous year's monthly rate.

Police pressure

Police pressure is aimed both at breaking up drug rings and driving down the price of coca to make other crops more attractive.

The government offers peasant

farmers \$2,000 for every hectare of coca they voluntarily eliminate. In addition, a U.S.-financed credit programme extends loans of up to \$25,000 for alternative crop projects.

But so far this year only 200 hectares have been eliminated, against a government target of 5,000 hectares in 1989.

"I tore up half a hectare, but I am not going to eliminate any more. Two thousand dollars isn't enough," said one farmer.

The price of coca fluctuates wildly but the going rate recently was \$72 per 48-kilogramme bag, double the estimated production cost of \$36.

Government officials calculate the average coca farmer has around 1.5 hectares planted. With four crops annually, this would generate an annual net profit of around \$1,700 at current prices.

U.S. funds halted

That is a good living in South America's poorest country, where the average per capita income is some \$300 a year.

The situation has been further complicated by campaigning for May's congressional and presidential elections. Some leftist parties have promised the peasants they would repeal the drug law if elected.

Unless Bolivia meets an agreed target of 1,800 hectares eliminated by the end of April, U.S. financing will be delayed. If it does not meet the year-end goal, funds from Washington could be halted altogether.

People of different races chum up in South Africa's advertising world

A world where blacks and whites meet

By Gill Tudor

Reuter

JOHANNESBURG — A crowd of laughing joggers cram into a bar to advertise a brand of beer. Two children hug each other in a chainstore clothing commercial.

Familiar advertising images in South Africa as anywhere — except that the actors being ostentatiously friendly to one another have different-coloured skins in a country where racial segregation is the norm.

Most South African advertising reflects, on page, screen or radio, the country's deep racial divisions.

The faces staring out from the white, broadly aimed at the white population. Magazines and television channels are invariably white. Their counterparts in the "black" media are usually black. Sometimes parallel versions of the same advertise-

ment appear, identical except for skin colour.

But a handful of companies have started pushing a more racially-integrated image for their products, showing a world where blacks and whites mix easily in a friendly social setting.

"We should view everyone as people, not as in different races, or whatever," a young white man says in a new beer-commercial on radio. "It's not a black person or a (mixed-race) coloured person. It's your friend."

The beer is made by South African Breweries (SAB), which has a virtual monopoly on the country's beer market and a deliberate policy of multi-racial advertising.

"We have consciously set out to try and articulate a more positive image of a future South Africa," SAB public affairs manager Gary May told reporters. He said many young South

Africans were rejecting racial divisions and mixing together more than ever before.

"It's a way for the future," he said. "We're not out on a missionary drive, we've just taken an existing trend that is present and are trying to reinforce it."

Most South Africans, though, see the real world differently. Despite some slight erosion of apartheid and government promises of reform, most people are still boxed into racially-separate living areas.

Hardly a day goes by without reports of nasty racial incidents — a black toddler expelled from a public swimming pool or an elderly black man thrown out of a municipal park.

Even with the best intentions, social contact between races is difficult, often strained. "People don't mix like that," one black South African remarked. "It's just for adver-

tising."

"It does happen, but only in liberal circles," another said. Nick Atkinson, marketing director at cosmetics firm Shulton, makes to trail-blazing claims for his men's toiletry commercials, one of which shows a white man and a black man joking together over a beer.

"We haven't done it to appease anyone — we do the advertising in the best interests of the brand. We saw this as a situation where we have black and white consumers," he said.

"It's just two people having a drink."

But media sociologist Keyan Tomaselli said multi-racial advertisements were careful not to cross certain tacit boundaries.

"It's always on very safe, neutral ground — in bars and so on, never in homes," he said. "And you never see a white woman with a black man, or vice versa."

Tomaselli, director of Natal University's contemporary cultural studies unit, said most products advertised this way were targeted mainly at the black public.

"It's in (the advertisers') interests to show an idealistic, multi-racial society to meet the expectations of those consumers — and also to ensure their own credibility as the country struggles towards a post-apartheid society," he said.

Tomaselli said advertising alone could not alter attitudes but tended to reflect and reinforce wider social, political and economic changes.

"These ads aren't a contradiction of apartheid," he said. "There is a degree of apparent multi-racialism in life now, and that's what they are reflecting. But it's an appearance which hides a tightly-controlled structural apartheid underneath."

Turkey preserves its bird paradise

Bird sanctuaries have thrived in Turkey, but dangers from industrial pollution have also increased in recent years.

ISTANBUL — Amid outcries of its nascent conservationist lobby, Turkey has taken steps to preserve its rich bird sanctuaries in the lakes that dot the landscape in the western region.

One of the biggest conservation sites lies southeast of Istanbul at Lake Manyas, near the towns of Bandirma and Balikesir. Each year the area attracts millions of birds on their migratory path between Africa and the Middle East in the south and Central Asia and Europe in the north.

One of the most descriptive accounts of Turkey's so-called "bird paradise" in Manyas dates back to the 1940s. "The first time I saw them I thought I was in a different world," wrote a German refugee who settled in Turkey. "I had put away my fishing equipment and was carried away by their existence. They were tracing circles in the air, and then landing once their dance of mirb was accomplished."

"The shores of the lake and the edges had become a natural birds' motel on the migration flight. Their colourful appearances were complemented by an inexplicable harmony of sounds and a sight of extraordinary beauty that covered the whole lake. From then on, I couldn't do without this place."

The intervening years have brought increasing industrial pollution and a general environmental degradation to western Turkey, the most developed region in the country. But the conservationists also have raised their voices in the meantime.

The Manyas lake area, reputedly an intermediary stop for almost 2 million birds of more than 200 species, was declared a conservation area in the 1950s. In recent years praise for the Turkish conservation effort has come from the Council of Europe.

Each year the area attracts thousands of tourists not only from other parts of Turkey but also from Europe. However, under conservationist pressure, Turkish authorities have resisted moves to develop the area as a mass tourism site. An annual feature is the Bandirma Bird Paradise International Culture and Tourism Festival.

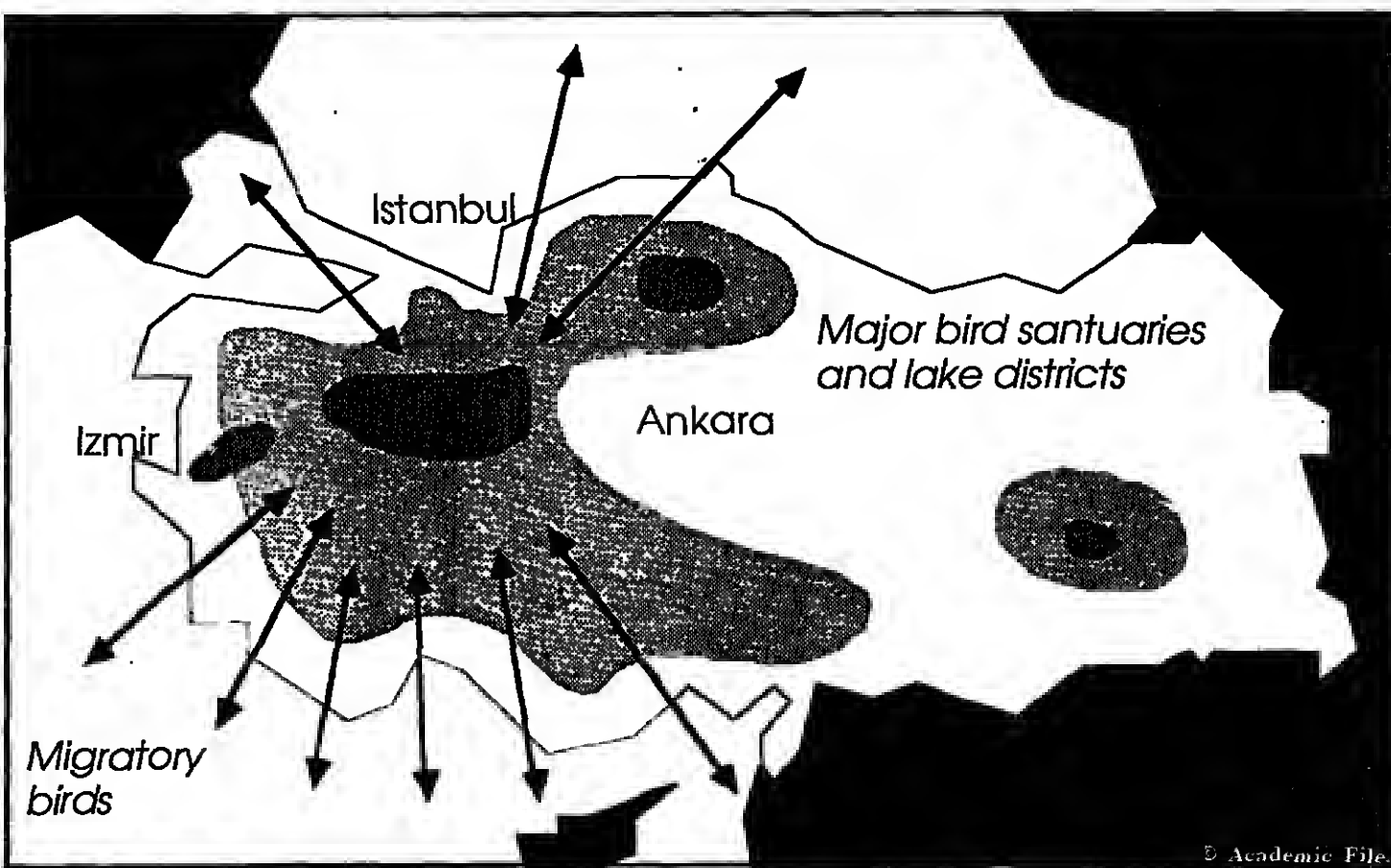
An obvious model for the Turkish conservationists has been the

Nakuru Lake national park in Kenya where rare species of flamingoes have been saved by the authorities while, at the same time, a major foreign exchange earner has been created for the country.

The success of the Manyas and Bandirma experiment has convinced the Turkish tourism and wildlife conservation authorities that the "national park" concept can work in the country. Turkey

now has its own flamingo population living in a protected environment in Lake Seyfe and another bird sanctuary was created three years ago at the Tekel Camalti Saltpan, 26 kilometres from the southwestern port of Izmir. The region is reputed to have 182 different bird species.

The critics warn that the project may backfire if the authorities are unable to control the nature of the waste — Academic File.



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GATT clears obstacles to world trade

GENEVA (AP) — Negotiators from about 100 countries Saturday agreed to a compromise package on four areas of world trade, ending three months of deadlock and clearing the way for work to resume on an ambitious programme to liberalise world trade.

The deal is based on a compromise on agricultural supports, textiles and clothing, intellectual property such as patents, and safeguards, or escape clauses, that countries can use as protection against a sudden surge in imports.

Arthur Dunkel, director-general of the 96-nation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which sponsored the negotiations, told journalists: "We have been successful enough to adopt a whole package."

The four areas were left unresolved at GATT's ministerial meeting in Montreal in December.

Accords on 11 other areas of world trade, frozen since Montreal, will now come into effect. Together the accords provide the framework for the final phase of negotiations to liberalise trade under the current GATT Uruguay Round, which is scheduled to conclude at the end of 1990.

"Now the real negotiations can begin," said an official from the European Community (EC) who withheld his name.

Warren Lavorel, head of the U.S. delegation, described the package as a "good basis for negotiations over the last 18 months of the (Uruguay) Round" but said that a "hard battle" lay ahead.

"There is no possibility to re-

lax," said Dunkel.

The main points of the accords are as follows:

— Agriculture.

The long-term goal "is to provide for substantial progressive reductions in agricultural support and protection sustained over an agreed period of time." Implementation of long-term reform will begin in 1991.

Lavorel said that the text would still allow the United States to pursue its objective of "elimination" of supports. EC officials said that they were satisfied that the word "elimination" was not included in the document.

In the short-term the accord calls for an overall freeze on farm supports and import barriers through 1990. It also calls for countries to reduce their subsidies in 1990 but does not specify by how much.

The text does not mention a production freeze. The U.S. had objected to the inclusion of such a clause on the grounds that it was the "granary of the world" and that stocks were at their lowest since 1972, Lavorel said.

— Textiles.

The text states that negotiations will begin later this month on how to integrate the sector into GATT.

Much of the textiles and clo-

thing trade is currently regulated by the Multi Fibre Arrangement (MFA), under which industrialised countries negotiate quotas on imports from developing countries from cheap Third World imports.

The agreement commits GATT members to start negotiations on phasing out the MFA, starting after 1990, and to "improve the trade situation" in textiles while negotiating.

The language met concerns of the EC, which raised last-minute objections to an earlier text on the grounds that it would lead to too rapid liberalisation of trade in clothing and cause "disorder" on the world market, an EC official said.

The EC's objections forced the negotiations to run into an unscheduled fourth day.

A statement from the Indian delegation, which has been pressing for a more liberalised trade

regime, said that it was "encouraged" by the text.

— Intellectual property rights.

The accord provides for negotiations to continue for the rest of the Uruguay Round on trade in intellectual property rights such as patents, copyright and new technology, giving consideration both to "developmental and technological objectives."

This is a compromise between the United States, which has led industrialised countries in pressing for better protection of its intellectual property under GATT, and developing countries.

Led by Brazil and India, Third World countries have argued that their access to such knowhow is necessary for their economic and technological development and that it should not be regulated through GATT.

A statement from the Brazilian

delegation said that "the basis for this compromise rests on the recognition that there is no prejudice as to the final results of the negotiations."

— Safeguards.

The agreement gives GATT the go-ahead to draw up a text by June on how to reestablish control over safeguards which countries use as protection against a sudden increase in imports. These have increasingly taken the form of bilateral deals which undermine GATT's multilateral principles.

The agreement reached in Geneva also brings into effect accords reached in Montreal. These include commitments in the following areas:

— Import tariffs.

Tariffs on most goods are to be reduced by at least the 30 per cent agreed in the last GATT Round, which ended in 1979.

— Trade in services.

This will be liberalised, although developing countries will be allowed to give their industries some extra protection.

— Tropical products.

Industrialised countries are to lower barriers to imports of tropical products such as coffee, bananas and rubber from Third World countries.

— Disputes procedure.

To speed up settlement of disputes, all GATT reports on disputes should be completed within 15 months unless the parties agreed to an extension.

— Trade policy review mechanism.

The legality of countries' trade policies is to be reviewed every two years for the United States, Canada, Japan and the EC, every four years by 16 other countries, and as necessary for all other GATT members.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

IDB extends JD 1.94m loans

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) has lately approved 10 loans amounting to JD 1.94 million to local industrial businesses. A bank spokesman said that one of the loans was to finance the purchase of primary materials for an industry while the others went for companies producing confectioneries, dairy products, plastics wires and leather shoes. The spokesman said that the bank has granted local businesses 19 loans totalling more than JD 6.3 million since the beginning of the year.

French to help modernise Aden refinery

LONDON (R) — South Yemen with French help is to modernise its Aden refinery to cope with oil through Soviet-built pipelines from the Shabwa oilfields, Energy Minister Saleh Abu Baker Ibn Hussain said. He told the London Saudi Arabian-owned newspaper Asharq Al Awsat an initial agreement with France had been signed for \$30 million for the refurbishment of the refinery but gave no date when work would start. Ibn Hussain said the Shabwa pipelines will open by the end of this year or early next year and will initially carry 30,000 barrels of oil per day (b/d) rising to 120,000 b/d in 1991. He estimated there were 500 million tonnes of oil reserves in Shabwa region. Ibn Hussain said South Yemen's current oil production was 800 tonnes per day which had to be transported by road tankers from Shabwa where oil was first discovered in 1986. Ibn Hussain said the French oil company Elf-Aquitaine had been given production-sharing concessions for 20 years in Aden, Ibban province and north of Shabwa region while Total had the same arrangement east of Shabwa region. South Yemen and Iraq have agreed to increase the amount of Iraqi oil refined in Aden from the current 15,000 b/d and to provide Iraqi experts to help run the refinery.

Kuwaiti cucumbers go to France

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwait, a major oil-exporting nation, has reported its first shipment of agricultural produce outside the Gulf region. A senior Kuwaiti official announced that the first shipment of Kuwaiti-grown cucumbers had left for France. The managing director of the Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs Co., Khaled Al Rashid, said that the shipment totalled 2.5 tonnes. He said that it was the first time Kuwait exported cucumbers outside the Gulf area. Kuwait and neighbouring Gulf countries are part of the arid Arabian Peninsula where the world's largest reservoirs of crude oil are located. These countries have been using their oil wealth to develop agricultural production, mainly for domestic and regional consumption.

Ortega to lobby for money in Europe

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — President Daniel Ortega will visit eight European nations this month in search of money to shore up Nicaragua's faltering economy, an official has said. Luis Carrion, minister of economy, industry and commerce, said Svedeo is organising a conference of possible donors in May that will include European governments and financial organisations. Ortega will meet with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher May 8, the pro-government daily El Nuevo Diario has said. El Nuevo Diario said the trip would leave April 25, but the Nicaraguan government press office said it did not know the dates of Ortega's trip. Carrion said Ortega will present his government's economic programme and ask for international support. "The reduction of inflation levels is the most important result of the economic measures that have been adopted," Carrion told a breakfast meeting of foreign journalists. Carrion said other important achievements this year were the slashing of government spending and a "general change in politics."

U.S. economists see greater risk of recession

NEW YORK (R) — High interest rates, tumbling automobile sales and a sluggish housing market have raised the chances that the drive to squeeze inflation out of the domestic economy will also push the United States into a recession, economists say.

And, in the latest measure of the state of the nation's economic health, the Labour Department has reported that, although the unemployment rate had fallen to five per cent in March — its lowest in 15 years — the pace of jobs' growth was at its slackest since last August.

Some experts put the risk of a downturn later this year or early in 1990 at as much as 50 per cent. Among the more bearish is Stephen Roach, senior economist at Morgan Stanley and Co.

The forces that typically colimate in recession have been set into motion," he said.

Roach sees a mild contraction by early 1990, pointing to virtually flat consumption levels over the past nine months for durable items such as automobiles, furniture and appliances.

He also cited a slowdown in business capital spending to single-digit percentage gains this year from double-digit ones in 1989. And he lists weakening in the

housing market.

"Those are the three sectors of the economy that always are on the leading edge of feeling the impact of higher (interest) rates," he said.

Weakness in these sectors, he adds, eventually weighs on income and production.

That view comes amid growing questions over the future of the U.S. economy, which in March marked its 76 month of expansion — the longest in peacetime history since 1854, when monthly records began.

But not all economists are bearish. "There are a few signs of a slowdown. But even that doesn't seem to be very certain," says Geoffrey Moore, director of Columbia University's Centre for International Business Cycle Research.

Others are not so optimistic, conceding the risks of recession have grown. At the least, they look for a significant slowing in the economy during the second half of the year.

Economists point to Federal Reserve (Fed) credit policy. The Fed, to slow the economy,

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Poorest African nations want total debt write-off

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Africa's poorest nations have called on foreign creditors to write off all their foreign debt, saying most are on the verge of economic collapse.

The appeal by 28 countries was made in a declaration presented to a meeting of African economic planning and development ministers.

A separate report noted that the foreign debt of the 28 — which are among 42 nations worldwide classified as least developed countries (LDCs) — had tripled this decade to \$40.2 billion.

The declaration on measures to accelerate development expressed concern about falling prices for commodity exports. It also mentioned inadequate foreign aid, hardening terms on such aid and growing debt, all aggravated by severe weather and refugee problems.

"The combination of all these factors has led to the increase in the number of LDCs in Africa from 21 in 1981 to 28 in 1988 and brought most of our countries to the verge of economic collapse,"

the declaration said.

"The magnitude of this debt may seem modest, but in fact it represented 90.5 per cent of the combined GDP (gross domestic product) of the African LDCs in 1987," it added.

The declaration painted a bleak picture of deprivation, in which average per capita income of the LDCs fell to \$220 a year in 1987-88 from \$237 in the period 1980-84.

Only one-fifth of adults were literate in the poorest countries, life expectancy was 45 years and economies were growing at an annual rate in real terms of just 0.4 per cent.

With populations growing at a rate six times higher, per capita income would be halved over 20 years.

The economies suffered from slow disbursement of aid, growing trade protectionism abroad, chronic balance of payments problems, recurrent drought, and increasing difficulties in importing raw materials, spare parts and equipment due to lack of foreign exchange.

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The Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities in Amman is offering the following used residential furniture for sale by sealed envelopes:

DESCRIPTION	Quantity
1. Wall unit in three sections	1
2. Big dining table + 6 dining chairs	1
3. Double bed + mattress	1
4. Deep Freezer	2
5. Sofa with two seating places	1
6. Sofa with three seating places	1
7. Heavy arm chairs	3
8. Gas cookers	2
9. Single bed	2
10. Bedroom chairs	3

Those interested should contact EC Delegation, P.O. Box 926794, Amman, JORDAN, Tels. 668191/668192 for inspection on Thursday April 13, 1989.

Bids shall be submitted to the Delegation on Tuesday, April 18, 1989 at the latest.

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 2. Operations Manager
- Fluent English/Arabic necessary.
Interested qualified women please apply at Tel: 601507

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE WATER AUTHORITY INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) CONTRACT NO. 09/89/ME

- Date: 10.04.1989
Loan No.: 2694 JO
IFB No.: 09/89/ME
1. The Water Authority of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has received a loan from the World Bank in various currencies towards the cost of the Water and Sewerage Project and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contracts for the purchase of Horizontal Pumps, Starters, Cables, Riser Pipes and Galvanized Pipes.
 2. The Water Authority now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of Horizontal Pumps, Starters, Cables, Riser Pipes and Galvanized Pipes.
 3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the documents at the office of the Secretary General of the Water Authority, Shmesani, P.O. Box 2412, Amman Jordan. Telephone 680100 Telex 22439 JO.
 4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any eligible bidder on submission of a written application to the above address and the payment of non-refundable fee of JD 200.
 5. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in the amount(s) specified in Section V Schedule of Requirements, and must be delivered to the above office not later than 1200 hours, Jordan local time, on Wednesday, 10/05/1989.
- Eng. Mutazz Belbeisi
Secretary General
Water Authority

IRBID DISTRICT ELECTRICITY CO. LTD., THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN SUPPLY OF 33KV AUTO RECLOSERS AND ACCESSORIES TENDER 80049

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Tender documents are available by application in writing to IDECO, P.O. Box 46 - Irbid accompanied by a cheque for a value of JD 50. This amount is not refundable.

Tender documents are to be submitted to IDECO office in Irbid by noon on Monday 29th May, 1989.

Fixed price contracts are required and tender must be accompanied by a bid bond as specified in the document, valid for four months.

Jordanian industrial delegation to visit India this month

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A team from the Amman Chamber of Industry (ACI) will travel to India on April 22 to hold official talks designed to pave the way for a Jordanian-Indian investment seminar which will be held in Amman in June 1989.

The announcement was made by ACI President Khalid Abu Hassan who said that the seminar, which will be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, could be considered as a follow up to Indian-Jordanian trade and economic talks held during Prince Hassan's visit to India in April 1988.

Abu Hassan said that the team going to India will discuss the topics which will be on the coming seminar's agenda.

The ACI is currently also holding contacts with the Indian chambers of industry and trade to determine the subjects to be included in the agenda, Abu Hassan added.

So far it can be said that the seminar will focus attention on expanding the industrial base in Jordan by benefiting from Indian expertise and experience and on the basis of joint ventures. Abu Hassan noted.

He said that India has a vast experience in light and intermediate industries and that Jordan

would welcome such contribution and would open the door wide for investments from different Arab countries to finance Indian-Jordanian joint ventures.

India, Abu Hassan noted, is one of three countries in the world whose balance of trade with the Kingdom is not in their favour.

He noted that India is the largest importer of Jordan's phosphate and that a consortium of Indian companies have already signed a contract with Jordan to set up a phosphoric acid processing plant in the Kingdom with an annual productive capacity of no less than 700,000 tonnes, mostly to be exported to Indian markets.

On April 2, Jordan and India announced their intention to diversify and increase the volume of trade exchanged between them during 1989.

A statement that followed the conclusion of meetings here by the Joint Jordanian-Indian Economic Committee said that Jordan will purchase up to \$50 million worth of Indian products during this year in a bid to adjust the balance of trade which is heavily in favour of Jordan.

In addition, the statement said, India will this year buy one and a half million tonnes of phosphate, 550,000 tonnes of potash and 200,000 tonnes of fertilisers.

French press magnate buys big stake in Spain

MADRID (AP) — French news media magnate Robert Hersant Saturday acquired a substantial share of the influential Grupo 16 company, publisher of the third-largest national daily newspaper, *Diario 16*.

Jesus Santalla Lopez, an attorney for Hersant, confirmed in a telephone interview with the Associated Press that the French businessman's group had acquired 31.40 per cent of the shares of *Impulsa*, the Grupo 16 holding company.

He said several separate purchases of *Impulsa* shares Saturday had satisfied Hersant's objective of gaining control of "a significant, but minority, stake" of around 30 per cent of Grupo 16.

A statement issued Saturday by Grupo 16, whose president Juan Tomas De Salas controls 55 per cent of *Impulsa*, accused the Hersant group of attempting a hostile takeover of the company.

The Spanish company also accused Hersant of capitalising on insider information provided by Grupo 16 founders and executives unhappy with Salas.

The most important purchase Saturday involved a bloc representing 12.17 per cent of the group's shares held by the widow and children of one of the founders, the attorney said.

Grupo 16 and its left-of-centre *Diario 16* newspaper gained prominence and readership by defending freedom in the early days of the Spanish transition to democracy following the death in 1975 of Francisco Franco.

Diario 16 has a daily circulation of just over 136,000, putting it third behind Spain's leading daily *El Pais* and the conservative *ABC* newspaper.

Santalla Lopez emphasised that the Hersant group had no intention of bringing about any editorial change in the group's publications.

The Grupo 16 statement described the purchases as a "hostile operation" that came after the Hersant-controlled conservative French daily newspaper *Le Figaro* offered to cooperate with *Diario 16*, which prides itself on aggressive, critical reporting.

Santalla Lopez said the Hersant group purchased 9.17 per cent of the *Impulsa* shares Friday from Grupo 16 vice president Cesar Pontvianne.

He declined to disclose the cost of any of the purchases, but news reports indicated Hersant paid an estimated 300 million pesetas (\$2.6 million) for Pontvianne's shares.

The attorney added that Saturday the group purchased two other separate blocks of stock: 5.10 per cent of *Impulsa* shares held by Alfonso De Salas, a brother of the Grupo 16 president and 4.96 per cent held by several other early investors.

Pontvianne and Alfonso De Salas formed part of a group of investors and executives who expressed anger and resigned last month when Juan Tomas De Salas fired *Diario 16* editor Pedro J. Ramirez.

Grupo 16's publications include one of Spain's three top newsweeklies, *Cambio 16*, a just-launched national business daily, *La Economia 16*, several regional newspapers and more than 10 other business, automotive and sports publications.

In France, Hersant also has interests in the daily *France-Soir* along with more newspapers.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Sunday, April 9, 1989 Central Bank official rates			
	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	538.0	542.0	84.8 85.5
Japanese yen (for 100)	404.8	409.1	254.0 256.0
Dutch guilder	910.3	919.2	84.0 84.7
Deutsche mark	286.2	289.1	39.1 39.4
Italian lira (for 100)	325.5	328.9	136.8 137.9
Belgian franc (for 10)			

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IOC suspends faulty drug-testing labs

LONDON (AP) — The drug-testing laboratory that examined urine samples provided two years ago by Ben Johnson has been suspended for failing to meet Olympic anti-doping standards.

The Rome unit that tested Johnson at the 1987 world championships, when the Canadian set a 100-metre world record, is one of seven labs that have been deleted from the International Olympic Committee's approved list of 22 and given four months to "correct their mistakes."

Johnson's coach, Charlie Francis, testified to a Toronto inquiry recently that the athlete may have been taking steroids as far back as the Rome World Championships. That was two years before Johnson tested positive at the Seoul Olympics and was stripped of the 100-metre gold medal and banned for two years.

Prince Alexandre de Merode, chairman of the IOC Medical Commission, disclosed Friday that laboratories in Rome, Indianapolis, Moscow, Calgary and Helsinki had been suspended from the roster.

Two other labs, in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, and Magglingen, Switzerland, also had been withdrawn, he said, after asking not to be considered for future use.

"In some cases, only one small mistake was made, but we cannot allow even one," De Merode told the Associated Press in a telephone interview from his Brussels, Belgium, office. "IOC labs must be perfect in drug detection."

De Merode said the suspensions began at the beginning of February and will run through the end of May.

Then, he said, the labs will take a test to see if they have rectified their mistakes. If they pass the test, they will be re-accredited.

"We are not here to cut off their heads," De Merode said. "They are good laboratories and we want to help them."

De Merode said international sports federations that use IOC-approved laboratories already had agreed, or soon will, not to send their samples to the suspended laboratories.

These, he said, included the International Amateur Athletic Federation, governing body for track and field.

"The IAAF have already agreed to work only with accredited IOC laboratories," De Merode said. "The other federations will surely do the same."

The IOC's Calgary laboratory was used for testing during last year's Winter Olympics and the Moscow establishment handled testing for the 1980 summer games.

De Merode declined to give details of the individual errors made at any of the seven labs. But he said those in Rome and Helsinki had made mistakes "more of an administrative nature."

These two, he said, had provided insufficient written analysis of their drug-testing work, while some of the others were unsuccessful in detecting banned substances. Zagreb and Magglingen, he said, had not re-applied for accreditation.

At IOC headquarters in Lausanne, IOC spokeswoman Michele Verdier said some of the suspended laboratories had been unable to keep pace with the mounting fight against drug abuse.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

O'Reilly tumbles in world championships

SOLIHULL, England (AP) — Britain's Wilf O'Reilly tumbled near the finish line Saturday in the 500 metres and saw his chances of winning the world short track skating title virtually evaporate.

The 24-year-old, who was favoured to win the overall title, caught the arm of Canadian Mark Lackie and spun out on his back as he made a bid to win his quarterfinal. With O'Reilly out, Lackie went on to win the 500 metres ahead of countryman Michel Daignault, who earlier won the 1,500-metre event. With the 1,000-metre and 3,000-metre races Sunday, O'Reilly appeared to have slim chances of catching the two Canadians for the overall title. But he was not conceding defeat. "The competition is only halfway over. A number of things can still happen," he said. "If I win the 1,000 and the 3,000 is run now I like it, I can still get second or third place. But, realistically, the championship is a little bit out of my sights now."

Fenech wins, then retires in tears

MELBOURNE (AP) — Jeff Fenech of Australia never found a fighter who could match him in the ring, but fragile hands finally dealt a knockout blow to his sensational boxing career.

Fenech, one of only 11 boxers in history to win world titles in three different weight divisions, announced his retirement Saturday night after pouncing out a 12-round decision over Mexican challenger Marcos Villanaza.

The victory was his third successful defence of the World Boxing Council featherweight title. Fenech, a non-stop fighter with a knockout punch in either hand, previously held the International Boxing Federation bantamweight and WBC super-bantamweight titles.

He compiled a 23-0 record as a professional with Villanaza only the fourth man to stay the distance with him.

At 24, Fenech's best paydays appeared ahead of him. He had a number of lucrative offers to fight in the United States and often talked of becoming the first man to win world titles in six divisions.

He won all 11 world titles fights he contested in his career.

Fenech's retirement came when he realised he would never be free from pain in his hands, which had troubled him throughout his boxing career.

He said Saturday night that he broke his left hand in the second round against Villanaza and also injured the right.

"I just can't stand the torture any more," he said in tears after the fight. "I don't want to have to have injections in my hands."

It's just not worth the pain. There hasn't been a fight I've had that I could shake hands afterwards.

"I know if I come back the same thing will happen. I don't need the money."

Fenech's earnings from fights and endorsements are estimated at around \$2 million. He owns a number of properties and is a national hero in Australia, where he is much in demand for television commercials and appearances.

"In the morning I'll probably want to come back but I've always said that when I retire I'll never come back," he said.

All three American judges had Fenech the winner by a big margin. Arden Bryan scored it 117-109 while Harold Lederman and Jerry Roth both had it 118-109.

Villanaza was warned on three occasions for punching low and referee Joe Cortez of the United States deducted a point from him in the fifth round.

The Mexican, an 11-year-pro whose record dropped to 48-7-3, failed in his fourth attempt to win a world title.

World Table Tennis Championships Shentong upsets champion Jiang

DORTMUND, West Germany (AP) — China's Yu Shentong upset two-time world champion Jiang Jialiang in the quarterfinals of the men's singles at the World Table Tennis championships Saturday, the first time in six years that Jiang failed to make at least the semifinals.

Shentong, a 20-year-old newcomer to the Chinese team, beat Jiang, 22-20, 18-21, 21-16, 21-18.

West Germany's Jörg Rosskopf and Steffen Fetzner won the men's doubles while Qiao Hong and Deng Yaping of China captured the women's crown Saturday night.

Rosskopf and Fetzner defeated Poland's Leszek Kucharski and Yugoslavia's Zoran Kalinic, 18-21, 21-17, 21-19. Qiao and Deng defeated Cheng Jing and Hu Xiaoxin, 21-18, 21-19, in an all-Chinese final of the women's doubles.

He also was second in men's doubles in 1983 and mixed doubles in 1987 along with a third in men's singles in 1983.

Jan-Ove Waldner of Sweden meets Andrzej Grubba of Poland in one semifinal Sunday. Waldner won a table tennis world title.

Jiang's defeat marks the changing of the guard, not only among the Chinese but in the world play. The other three men's semifinalists are Europeans.

Jiang 25, indicated earlier in the competition that he would retire following the championships. He leaves competition with two world singles titles and three team titles.

He also was second in men's doubles in 1983 and mixed doubles in 1987 along with a third in men's singles in 1983.

Jan-Ove Waldner of Sweden meets Andrzej Grubba of Poland in one semifinal Sunday. Waldner won a table tennis world title.

ner, who lost to Jiang in the men's final in 1987, led Sweden to the team title over China earlier this week.

Another Swede, Jorgen Persson, faces Yu in the other semifinal.

Saturday, Grubba beat Taek Soo, 21-18, 21-19, 21-15 and Waldner downed Hungarian Tibor Klampar, 21-19, 0-11, 21-17, 22-20.

Persson outlasted China's Xu Xiang in the other quarterfinal, 21-13, 21-16, 17-21, 21-18.

The rest of the world is catching up with the Chinese men.

At the last three world championships, China had at least three men's semifinalists. It won the last four men's singles and team titles and took six of seven overall titles at the 1987 world championships in New Delhi, India.

But Saturday, in addition to losing Jiang, its top doubles team, was ousted by Rosskopf and Fetzner in the doubles semifinals. Chen and Wei won the 1987 world and 1988 Olympic and Asian titles.

The Chinese women remain strong. They swept to the women's team title without losing any points and rarely dropping a set within the individual play.

They also were had all four semifinal slots in the women's doubles.

"We have made special efforts for some time to get the women's doubles gold medal back to China after losing at the 1987 world championships and the 1988 Olympics," Chinese coach Zhang Xie Ling said. "We brought four doubles teams to Dortmund who were on the same level."

The women's singles semifinals are Olympic singles champion Chen Versus Li Bun Hui of North Korea and Qiao against South Korea's Hyun Jung Hwa.

The championships, which started on March 29, and Sunday with the final three titles being decided, the men's singles, the women's singles and the mixed doubles.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHANIF
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FOOLING THE EYE

Both vulnerable, South deals.

NORTH
♠ A X 8
♥ 7 2
♦ A K 8
♣ A K Q 2

EAST
♠ Q 4 2
♥ J 10 9 5 3
♦ Q 10 9 5
♣ J 10 9 7 6 5

SOUTH
♠ 7 6 5
♥ A K J 6 4 3
♦ A 2
♣ 10 8 4

The bidding:
South West North East
2♥ Pass 6NT Pass
3♥ Pass 6NT Pass
Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠

Trump Coup Tommy earned his sobriquet early in life. Even in his college days he was noted for humbling play except on those occasions when the trump suit broke badly. This is one of his earliest examples of how skilled he would become.

North's response of two no trump asked Tommy to describe the nature of his weak two-bid, and Tommy's three-diamond rebid showed a bad hand but a good suit. North certainly was justified in going on to slam. It was inconceivable that there could be any loser outside the trump suit.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, APRIL 10 1989

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE
— As Charted By The Carroll Flighter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Oh, happy day, and a lot more when easy lunar aspects help us to feel our best. There is clarity of purpose, a good sense of what is needed and how to get it.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Changes that you have been making can now start to move. Earning power will increase. Keep your eyes open for useful opportunities.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Purchases and money transactions can be difficult when they do not work in your favor. Push yourself to get work completed.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A don't-fence-me-in attitude can affect relationships. Be diplomatic with other people when you cannot keep a commitment.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Morning moods may begin with a lack of confidence and slowly change to positive through the day.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) This is the kind of day that can have you connecting with great realistic ideas. Hang onto any down-to-earth schemes.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Consideration of your partner will lessen pressures. Miscommunication is possible when anxiety rules moods and feelings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Evaluate your religious and spiritual life. Can you reach your objectives? Today can give you clues as to what you need.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Start a change in your routine by highlighting entertainment and social engagements. You may be caught up in excessive work.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A promise cannot be kept due to a change in plans. You may be the victim of the silent treatment when someone does not get their way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A gift is a token of affection. Family relations are at a high point. A sibling's progress report needs close attention.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A recreational activity can be more costly than you expected, and have little benefit. You are given the rumor about a so-called friend.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Relationships flourish. Contact with parents has an emotional reward. Family matters run smoothly when everyone is busy.

Yankees' first home opening loss for 6 years

NEW YORK (AP) — Joe Carter hit a fluke three-run homer in the first inning, leading the Cleveland Indians to a 4-2 victory over New York Friday, the Yankees' first loss in a home opener in six years.

John Candelaria walked Odiwe McDowell leading off the game and Jerry Browne followed with an infield single to third.

Carter hit a 2-0 pitch deep to left-center that hit centre fielder Roberto Kelly's glove when he hit the fence and popped out and over the 399-foot sign for a three-run homer.

The Yankees rallied for two runs in the ninth after Rich Yett limited them to three hits through eight innings.

After Yett was relieved with two runners on, Jesse Orosco gave up a two-run double to pinch-hitter Don Slaught.

In other games in the American League Friday, Detroit beat Milwaukee 8-3, Minnesota beat Baltimore 8-3, Kansas City edged Boston 9-8, Toronto defeated Texas 10-9, California defeated Seattle 2-1 and the Chicago White Sox beat Oakland 7-1.

Tigers 10, Brewers 3

Kenny Williams drove in three runs with a double and single and the Detroit Tigers battered the Milwaukee Brewers 10-3.

The Brewers were hit by a solo homer from Rob Deer in the second inning; took a 3-2 lead in the top of the seventh on a two-run homer by Glenn Briggs.

In the bottom of the inning, Williams hit a two-run double and later scored on Lou Whitaker's sacrifice fly for a 5-3 lead.

Twins 8, Orioles 3

Gary Gaetti had four hits, including a two-run single in Minnesota's six-run sixth inning, as the Twins defeated Baltimore 8-3.

Gaetti's single in the sixth tied the score 2-2 after singles by Wally Backman, Kirby Puckett and Kent Hrbek loaded the bases.

2 deaths in Grand National

LIVERPOOL, England (R) — The deaths of two more horses in the British Grand National have led once more to calls for changes.

Outsiders Brown Trix and Seandem both had to be destroyed after falling at the notorious Becher's Brook in Saturday's race, won by 28-1 chance Little Polveir.

Twelve horses have now been killed in the national in the last 20 years, half of them at Becher's.

Two years ago Becher's claimed the life of a striking grey horse called Dark Ivy in a spectacular fall captured for millions on television.

On Saturday viewers were spared the desperate struggle by track officials, police and bystanders to pull Brown Trix and Seandem out of the Brook before the runners came to the fence for the second time.

Brown Trix was in danger of drowning. He was saved, albeit temporarily, by a man who kept his head above the water for several minutes.

Both horses were finally pulled clear with the help of ropes. Seandem had to be destroyed where he was. At first Brown Trix appeared to have survived the ordeal, but he too had to be destroyed later.

Becher's Brook presents a particular problem to horses. On Saturday it accounted for seven, including the favourite Dixton House, of the 26 horses who failed to complete the course.

Although the fence itself is only 1.6 metres high on the take-off side, modest by Aintree standards, the drop on the other side is nearly two metres and the ground slopes upwards.

After the death of Dark Ivy there were calls for Becher's to be made easier but they were rejected in July 1987 by the jockey club.

Chris Collins, Aintree chairman, said at the time: "Various modifications were considered, but would either have been superficial, completely changed the character of the fence, or introduced other risks. In the context of steeplechasing's supreme test, Becher's is a fair fence to ask horses and riders to jump."

The country's leading animal welfare body wanted the angle of the slope on the landing side of the fence to be altered.

Becher's was changed in 1955 the year after four horses were killed in the race. The Brook itself was made shallower and a run-out was provided.

Irish jockey Liam Cusack, the rider of Seandem, was taking part in his first national Saturday.

One-handed pitcher makes baseball debut

ANAHEIM, California (R) — California Angel Jim Abbott became the first one-handed pitcher in modern major league baseball history on Saturday in a 7-0 loss to the Seattle Mariners.

Abbott, 21, who was born with no right hand, began his major league debut nervously, allowing two runs in the first inning. He appeared to settle down but then four more Mariners scored in the fifth inning. Only one of those runs was earned, since Angel baseman Mark McLemore made an error on a potential inning-ending double play. Abbott, a star on the U.S. Olympic baseball team which won a demonstration sport gold medal at the Seoul Olympics, lasted 4-2/3 innings before he was removed from the game to a standing ovation from the crowd of 46,847.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

WYLO

HIWSS

AYGITE

TACHUG

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: MINCE ALTAR DEPUTY MAROON
Answer: When the new favorite arrived at the zoo, there was this among the kids—
"PANDA-MOON!"

THE Daily Crossword by Stanley B. Whitson

ACROSS

1 Obligation

5 Tibetan city

10 Pierre

14 Farm measure

15 Nimbuse

16 Hence

17 Cher film

19 Revolve

20 Scattered

21 Averaged

23 Former Air.

24 Waller item

25 "For — a

26 "Buddy

28 "Exodus" hero

31 12 doz.

33 Charged particles

37 Bowlike

40 Mag's guide

43 Distant

44 Deposition

45 Dec. and Apr.

46 Attempt

48 Gr. letter

49 Audit men

52 Resort

54 Up's kin

56 Old weapon

58 Suffer from

62 Semoan city

63 Salazar event

65 Long

66 Spy

67 Assembly

68 Abstract

69 Painter

70 Station

DOWN

1 Molest

2 Biol. branch

3 Tobacco

4 Verb form

5 Reinhold

6 Actor Hatfield

7 Islands of Indonesia

8 Of a bone: prof.

9 Inquiring

10 Son of Adam

11 Homonym

12 Reach an

13 Debutures

14 Retiring

15 Ford

16 Forelike part

17 Can. prov.

18 Sandy's sound

19 Lady Bird's son-in-law

20 Owl

21 Pitcher

22 Herdier

23 Study hard

24 Bulging

25 Gang's and

26 Tribe leader

27 Transmitted

28 Fodder

29 Calpa

30 Distribute

31 Footroom item

32 — bull

33 Dress style

34 Saw

35 Necessity: abbr.

36 Escape

37 Cook in an oven

38 WWII battle

39 Stimulate

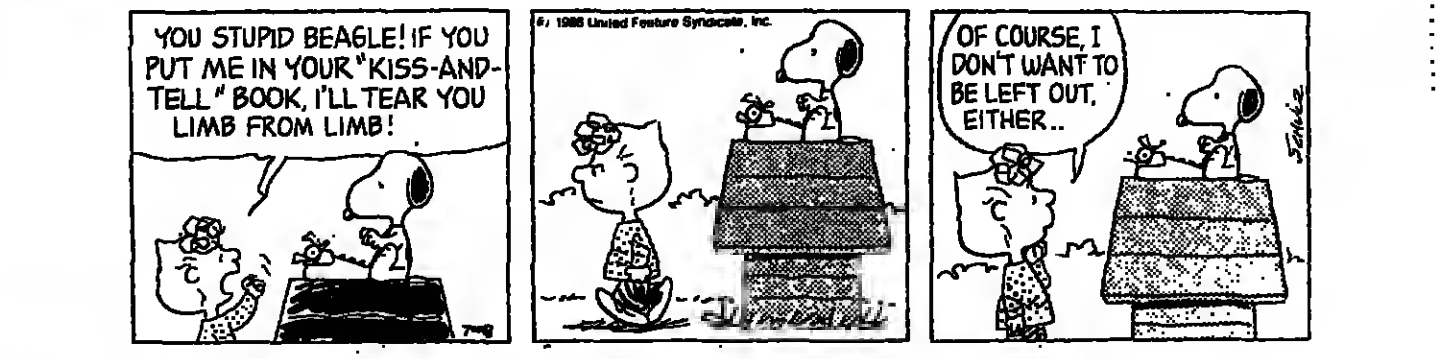
40 — out (made)

41 Soak

42 Snake fix

43 Dissolute

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Haiti claims revolt crushed

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — The Haitian government said Saturday that loyal troops had crushed a rebellion at one military barracks after fierce fighting.

However, there was no word about a mutiny at a second barracks and it was believed that rebellions was continuing.

Three people were reported killed and eight soldiers wounded when presidential guard troops retook the Dessalines barracks, across the street from the presidential palace. The rebellion there began Tuesday.

The Information Ministry said soldiers of the presidential guard, Haiti's strongest military unit, "now occupy the Dessalines barracks. Honour their courage."

It said most of the rebel soldiers had been arrested but others escaped, leaving behind uniforms, arms and ammunition.

However, there was no word on the situation at the barracks of another mutinous unit, the Leopard Battalion, located in hills in a suburb of the city.

The rebellion there began Monday, a day after an aborted coup.

Both units demanded the resignation of Haitian President General Prosper Avril, saying he was trying to reimpose a dictatorship in Haiti.

The government, in turn, said the rebellion had been organised by former members of the regime of ousted dictator Jean-Claude



A Haitian soldier patrolling a street in Port-au-Prince under the state of emergency declared by the government in the wake of a coup attempt staged by some army officers last week.

Duvalier, who fled in 1986.

The Information Ministry said rebel soldiers who had been arrested confirmed the coup attempt had been organised by Roger Lafontant, interior minister under Duvalier "with the support of sectors linked to drug trafficking."

Lafontant is living in the Dominican republic and Haiti has asked the Dominican republic to

expel him.

The presidential guard launched an assault on the 950-strong Dessalines barracks late Friday, using a light tank. The operation continued through the night and much of Saturday and the government said the fighting was fierce.

A government statement read on state radio as the battle was taking place said:

"The Information Ministry informed the public that the fratricidal confrontation, which the government tried to avoid during the last week, started last night."

A Catholic radio station, Radio Soleil, said that three civilians had died in the fighting, and a doctor at a hospital across the street from the barracks said eight soldiers had been admitted with gunshot wounds.

Pretoria throws more power into Namibia despite SWAPO pledge

WINDHOEK (Agencies) — South African security forces Sunday cast doubt on pledges by the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) to withdraw from Namibia and threw fresh troops and firepower into the northern battle zone.

Pretoria reversed withdrawing weapons convoys, called up four fighter jets and squared up for fresh fighting as Foreign Minister P. W. Botha said negotiators made good initial progress Saturday in resurrecting the peace process.

Namibia's state-run radio, quoting Botha, said Cuba, Angola and South Africa were on the verge of a breakthrough in a ceasefire plan to move SWAPO fighters out of Namibia into Angola.

Backed by observers from the United States and the Soviet Union, officials meeting in a luxury game farm were seeking an end to bloody border clashes that have claimed at least 290 lives.

Security force spokesman Derek Brune said the credibility of SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma "has taken a bit of a knock lately and we are not taking the chance of being caught out a second time."

South Africa contends that an estimated 1,900 SWAPO rebels crossed from Angola after a ceasefire was to have taken effect April 1, the first day of a U.N.

clash with around 100 heavily-armed guerrillas.

The South-African-led forces say they have so far killed at least 10 guerrillas for every man lost on their side. They have reported taking only eight prisoners.

Brune said South African troops were cynical about Nujoma's decision late Saturday to order the withdrawal of his forces from Namibia in terms of agreements linking Namibian independence to a pullout of Cuban troops from Angola.

U.N. American and South African interpretations of the complex peace package have been that SWAPO forces are obliged to remain at least 150 kilometres north of the Namibian border until mid-June.

Nujoma backed down from an earlier insistence, rejected by South Africa, that his men should be disarmed and confined by United Nations monitors to bases in Namibia.

"We have taken a decision to order all (our) troops inside Namibia to stop fighting, regroup and report to the People's Republic of Angola within 72 hours," Nujoma said in a statement handed to Reuters in Luanda.

He said the SWAPO guerrillas should be escorted with their weapons out of Angola

Voters cast ballots again in 64 Soviet constituencies

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet voters who spurned leading members of the Communist Party in their first multi-candidate elections Sunday returned to the ballot booths Sunday to determine clear winners in 64 constituencies.

The two-way races were taking place in areas where three or more candidates stood in the first round March 26 but none secured more than 50 per cent of the votes.

Eight of the run-offs were held in Moscow, where historian Roy Medvedev, persecuted for years under now discredited Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, was tipped to win a seat in the revamped parliament.

Close contests were expected in the Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, where representatives of grassroots nationalist movements scored handsome victories over officially backed opponents in the first round.

According to the official TASS news agency, 1,958 of the 2,250 seats in the new Congress of People's deputies have already been filled — including most of the 750 set aside for "public organisations."

The congress will in turn elect a smaller body, the Supreme Soviet, which is to be in session for most of the year — unlike the largely rubber-stamp parliament it is replacing.

But first, completely new elections will have to be held May 14 in nearly 200 constituencies where only one or two candidates stood but still no one secured the required 50 per cent of the votes cast.

Under the Soviet electoral system, voters cross out the names of the candidates they do not want from the ballot paper, leaving no mark against the candidate of their choice. In many cases voters struck out the name of single candidates.

Communist Party chiefs are still reeling from the first round in which senior party figures or mayors were defeated in Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev.

Party post-mortems have been stormy affairs. A meeting in Kiev during the week degenerated into a slanging match between officials trying to apportion blame for the poor showing of senior party members.

Leader at a three-day meeting in Leningrad said voters had vented their dissatisfaction over shortages of food and other goods. Defeated Leningrad regional party chief Yuri Soloviyov said rejected officials had only themselves to blame.

The Sun said last Thursday it sent the letters back to the palace and had agreed not to publish them.

The theft of the letters has added to tabloid speculation that the 15-year marriage of Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips is troubled. They are apart for up to six months a year.

"The stolen letters were addressed to the Princess Royal by Commander Timothy Laurence, the queen's equerry. We have nothing to say about the contents of personal letters sent to Her Royal Highness by a friend which were stolen and which are the subject of a police investigation," the palace statement said.

The Sunday Mirror said the letters were "too hot to handle" and senior Scotland Yard officers investigating their theft would not be allowed to see them.

"The officers have been told it is unlikely they will ever see them because the contents are of an extremely personal and intimate nature," the paper quoted a police source as saying.

Laurence, a dashing 34-year-old officer who took up his post three years ago, has an apartment at Kensington Palace. Last February he was seen escorting Princess Diana while her husband Prince Charles, heir to the throne, was abroad.

In the huge outdoor bazaar in Kathmandu's Ratna Park has towels and sport shoes from China, ready-made clothing from Hong Kong and utensils from Japan demonstrate the country's growing trade links with other nations.

Nevertheless, Nepal had a three billion rupee (\$127 million) trade deficit with India in the last fiscal year. Imports from India totalled 4.5 billion rupees (\$190 million).

Nepal relies on India for nearly half of its imports including almost all petroleum products and most essential commodities. But India's share of Nepal's total trade has declined from up to 70 per cent in

Hazelwood: best of 1964

HUNTINGTON, New York (AP) — Until last month, the best-known member of Huntington High School's class of 1964 was unquestionably Astronaut Hoot Wilson. Capt. Joseph J. Hazelwood, skipper of the Exxon Valdez tanker involved in the nation's largest oil spill, now holds that distinction. The 42-year-old Hazelwood, released on \$25,000 bail Thursday afternoon, became front-page news around the country after the March 24 accident in which he was allegedly drunk. Although Hazelwood had problems with alcohol, his wife was otherwise as obscure as those of his other unknown high school classmates. "He wasn't a wild kid. He was never in any trouble," Stuart Lifson, a member of the class of '64, told the Newsday newspaper. "He is a very inconspicuous person."

Hazelwood was raised in Huntington, a New York City suburb on Long Island, and still lives there with his wife and their daughter. His father was a captain for Pan American World Airways.

In another contest in the capital, historian Sergei Stankevich, who just failed to clear 50 per cent last month faced scientist Mikhail Lemeshev.

Stankevich told a rally Saturday sponsored by the new, reform Moscow Popular Front, that newspapers and officials were waging a smear campaign against him.

The Moscow daily Vechernyaya Moskva lamented an excess of passion in some of the Moscow races, saying some campaign groups had "misled their elementary feelings of decency."

In the Baltic republics, much attention was focused on Lithuania, where the grass-roots Sajudis movement won 31 seats in the first round.

But two of its senior officials — Secretary Virgilijus Cepaitis in the capital Vilnius and senior member Tesnosva Kudaba in the Baltic coast town of Ignalina — face tough battles in run-offs.

Louganis' manager ordered to stay away

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The housemate and former business manager of Olympic gold medalist Greg Louganis has been ordered to stay at least 152 metres away from the diver unless they mutually agree to closer contact. But superior court Judge Dzintra Janavs refused to order R. James Babbitt out of the Malibu home he has shared with Louganis for four years. Louganis, who won gold medals for springboard and platform diving in last summer's Olympics, fired Babbitt, his manager for six years, on March 13. He alleges that Babbitt threatened to make public "confidential and private facts" about him unless Louganis rehires him or compensates him. The 29-year-old Louganis said Babbitt had threatened to destroy his personal belongings and to shoot him if he tried to enter the house. In a sworn declaration, Babbitt said he has never harassed Louganis. Although Janavs Tuesday ordered Babbitt to stay away from Louganis, he allowed him to withdraw \$5,000 in living expenses from their joint account in addition to continue living at the home. Louganis said he is the sole owner of the house, but Babbitt contended he is a co-owner.

Hirohito letters sold for \$46,000

NEW YORK (AP) — A signature of the late Emperor Hirohito of Japan sold Thursday for \$46,200, 15 times more than the New York auction house had projected. "You can't measure love," said Herman Darvick, who staged the auction at a Manhattan hotel for some 100 enthusiasts and conceded he had misjudged the interest in the late Japanese monarch. Several people quickly raised bidding above the pre-sale estimate of \$3,000 for the 1934 signature described as an "exceedingly rare early manuscript letter of state in Japanese." The grave family came down at \$42,000, to loud applause. The auction raised the price to \$46,200. Masayuki Miyamoto, who placed the winning bid on behalf of a Japanese bank in New York that was representing a client in Japan, declined to say anything about the buyer. The letter was sold by the daughter of Carlos Mendietta Y. Montefur, Montefur obtained the letter, a congratulatory message, after he was elected provisional president of the Republic of Cuba Jan. 18, 1934.

Oslo: No radiation from Soviet sub

OSLO (R) — Up to 60 Soviet sailors may have died when their nuclear submarine sank in Arctic waters after a fire and explosion on board, but Norway said Sunday that tests showed no evidence of any radiation leaks in the area.

Norwegian Defence Minister Johan Joergen Holst said there was no apparent radioactive threat to the environment from the Mike-class attack submarine "Fro" nuclear reactors. The vessel, used to test advanced weapons systems, sank Friday.

Holst told Reuters in an interview that he did not believe the Kremlin had tried to cover up details of Friday's accident, although he criticised Moscow for delays in telling the outside world what had happened.

"It would appear that there is no danger of a (radioactive) leak, which is what we expected and, indeed, what has happened in previous accidents of this kind," he said.

Norwegian scientists said that preliminary tests of water and air in the area showed no increase in radioactivity. More tests were planned, but the results were not likely to differ.

"It took longer for the Soviets to inform us than we would have wished, and then only after we had asked for information," Holst said. But he said Moscow had no obligation to tell Oslo, since the vessel sank in international waters.

"We have no reason to believe that the Soviet leadership ordered silence on the issue... I think they just followed their

established routines and responded when we asked," Holst said.

Holst said he was told about a fire on board the submarine in the Norwegian sea Friday about 3.30 p.m. Washington defence officials made it public later Friday.

Oslo's urgent requests for confirmation and details brought a response more than 14 hours later, when Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev told Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland that the vessel's reactor complex had been shot down with no danger of radiation leakage but there had been some loss of life.

Gorbachev, who had just returned from a visit to Britain, also sent messages of reassurance to British Prime Minister

Thatcher and to President George Bush.

Holst said he now expected Moscow to publicise more details of the accident.

"We have no way of knowing exactly how many died," he said. "But it is generally feared that it could have been around 60." Moscow has not said what caused the fire that the crew battled for more than five hours before the explosion forced them to abandon ship.

The submarine, the only one of its kind in the Soviet navy, sank around 100 nautical miles west-southwest of Bear Island. It would normally carry a crew

The submarine sank in water so deep that the pressure has almost certainly crushed the hull like a nut.

Students battle Seoul police

SEOUL (AP) — Radical students pelted riot police with rocks and firebombs Sunday in South Korea after police blocked protesters trying to gain access to a university campus for an anti-government rally.

Several hundred students yelling "overthrow President Roh Tae-Woo" clashed with riot police outside the main gate of Hanyang University in eastern Seoul after police refused to allow students from other schools to enter.

About 1,000 riot police ringed Hanyang for about four hours, guarding alleys and roads around the school. All students were stopped for identification and only those with Hanyang identi-



Roh Tae-Woo

fication cards were allowed to enter.

Angry students tore down some of the brick wall around the campus and dug up a cement roadway, using the debris to hurl at police. Police retaliated with barrages of tear gas. Shops in the area closed and traffic on the main street in front of the campus was stopped.

Bus hijacker charged in Canadian court

OTTAWA (Agencies) — A Lebanese immigrant was charged Saturday with taking hostages after an eight-hour bus hijacking that ended without injury on the lawns in front of the Canadian parliament building.

Charles Jean Yacoub, 32, was ordered held in custody pending another hearing Monday. He was charged with hostage-taking, unlawful confinement, using a firearm and illegal possession of a firearm.

The most serious charge, hostage-taking, carries a maximum penalty of life in prison.

Police said Yacoub emigrated to Canada from Lebanon in 1976. Eight of the passengers who were aboard the Greyhound bus when it was hijacked in Montreal Friday were meanwhile flown at the bus company's expense to New York, their original destination, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) said.

The driver was from Montreal and a ninth passenger had been released when the hijacking began.

Police said there were six Canadians, including Yacoub and the driver, two people from France, one from Switzerland, one Israeli and one American aboard the bus.

The hijacker released hostages one at a time during Friday afternoon with notes calling for the withdrawal of Syrian troops from Lebanon. But police said the front for the Liberation of Christian Lebanon, to which he claimed to belong, apparently did not exist.

The hijacking ended peacefully — on the lawn directly under Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's office — when the hijacker surrendered and released the last five hostages.

Embarrassed police are investigating how they lost track of the bus.

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Tiny Nepal embroiled in major row with giant neighbour

By Bill Tarrant
Reuters

KATHMANDU — Nepal has closed schools and rationed fuel after India virtually shut down trade with the landlocked Himalayan kingdom and triggered anti-government protests.

Both countries appear to have dug in their heels for a long fight over terms for renewing treaties governing trade between them and transit rights through India for Nepal's imports from third countries, diplomats and residents said.

Behind the row is Nepal's insistence on deciding its own foreign policy and India's alarm at a declining share of Nepalese imports.

Students seized on the dispute to protest at King Birendra's government. Last week, the government shut down the

state university.

Several thousand students marched into the capital's main square dominated at one end by the royal palace. At least 26 people were hurt when police used tear-gas and riot sticks to break up the protest.

Birendra is rarely criticised in public and is regarded as an incarnation of Vishnu in this mountainous kingdom where Hinduism is the state religion.

"It is significant that the demonstrators did not get support from the general public, and there was no sympathy protests in other parts of Nepal," one Western diplomat said.

"It built up and disappeared like a fog blown away by a morning wind," another diplomat said.

Authorities have banned further demonstrations and mass meetings in the capital and declared a two-week holiday for Kathmandu's primary and

secondary schools.

The official daily, the Rising Nepal, said Saturday India had clamped a trade blockade on the border and no Indian goods had come into Nepal since March 19.

India says it is still supplying medicines and emergency goods through the two border crossing points that remain open.

Nepal shares three borders with India and one with Tibet and China. New Delhi has viewed with alarm Nepal's warming ties with China.

India was particularly upset when Nepal bought anti-aircraft guns and army trucks from China last June, diplomats said.

"Nepalis say that India's trade dispute is a facade and that what they're really upset about is the China relationship," a Western diplomat said.

The incident showed how foreign policy issues are reflected in domestic politics, diplomats and Nepalis said.

Political parties have been banned for years but they still hold informal meetings. The Nepali Congress Party took its inspiration from the Indian Congress Party and is generally pro-India. A Marxist Party leans to Peking.

Rishikesh Shah, a former foreign minister and now a leading dissident, said the Communists, part of a coalition government in the 1950s, had gained strength in recent years.

Shah said the government has not tried to whip up anti-India feeling as in past disputes with New Delhi to keep a lid on domestic dissent.

"Everybody is saying give us greater democracy or go stew in your own juice," he said. Nepal is also worried the fuss

with India may cause a loss of tourist dollar, the leading source of foreign exchange, just when the economy of one of the world's 10 poorest countries was on the mend.

Tour operators say the government has made special fuel allowances for the tourism industry. The most visible effect of the trade fight is the lack of cars on the road and long lines for cooking oil and rice.

Bangladesh said Saturday it could send Nepal 1,000 tonnes of diesel oil, 1,000 tonnes of kerosene and 4,000 tonnes of sugar as emergency supplies, but did not say how the goods would be transported.

Nepal relies on India for nearly half of its imports including almost all petroleum products and most essential commodities. But India's share of Nepal's total trade has declined from up to 70 per cent in

the early 1980s to about 40 per cent today.

One reason Nepal has been pressing India for a separate treaty on transit rights has been the increasing flow of third country imports travelling through India to markets in Nepal.

New Delhi is insisting on one treaty to govern trade and Nepal's transit rights to India's seaports.

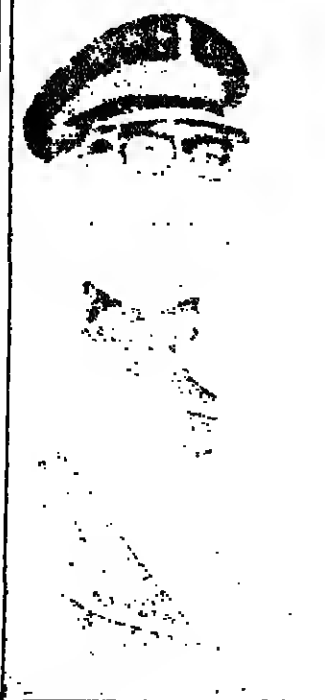
In the huge outdoor bazaar in Kathmandu's Ratna Park has towels and sport shoes from China, ready-made clothing from Hong Kong and utensils from Japan demonstrate the country's growing trade links with other nations.

Nevertheless, Nepal had a three billion rupee (\$127 million) trade deficit with India in the last fiscal year. Imports from India totalled 4.5 billion rupees (\$190 million).

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	08	43	13 55 Clear
ATHENS	11	52	26 79 Clear
BAHRA	18	84	24 79 Clear
BANGKOK	25	79	37 92 Clear
Buenos Aires	19	66	28 82 Rain
CAIRO	22	72	32 80 Clear
CHICAGO	01	34	08 48 Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	08	47	12 54 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	02	38	12 54 Clear
GENEVA	07	45	14 57 Clear
HONG KONG	19	66	20 80 Cloudy
ISTANBUL	10	50	22 72 Clear
LONDON	08	43	15 59 Clear
LOS ANGELES	19	66	35 92 Cloudy
MADRID	05	41	16 61 Rain
MECCA	22	72	36 97 Cloudy
MANA	19	68	24 76 Clear
MONTREAL	03	27	05 41 Cloudy
MOSCOW	02	37	10 50 Clear
NEW DELHI	20	68	37 39 Cloudy
NEW YORK	04	39	13 56 Cloudy
PARIS	05	41	15 55 Clear
ROME	06	43	21 70 Clear
TOKYO	12	55	22 73 Clear
VIENNA	07	45	18 64 Cloudy



King Birendra